Early Detection Saves Lives
Over 40? Don't skip your annual mammogram. Breast cancer affects 1 in 8 women. Go online or call us today to schedule your mammogram.
bronsonhealth.com/mammogram
(269) 341-8700
BRONSON

Connecting you to your community since 1843

THURSDAY, July 3, 2025

The Courier Leader

75¢

SERVING PAW PAW • LAWTON • MATTAWAN • LAWRENCE • GOBLES • VAN BUREN COUNTY

Volume 8, Issue 27 wilcoxnewspapers.com • 269-657-3072 USPS 564-620

70th annual Van Buren Youth Fair set for July 14th-19th

HARTFORD – A free grandstand with paid gate admission returns for a second year at the 70th annual Van Buren Youth Fair, which will get underway July 14-19, for its weeklong run.

Nightly grandstand features include:

Monday, July 14, 6 p.m. - Farm Stock Tractor Pull, followed by Magic Clouds Balloons Tethered Rides at 7 p.m. Balloon ride prices are $25 for adults and $10 for children.

Tuesday, July 16, 7 p.m. – Hartford NTPA Nationals Tractor Pull. The event will feature Super Farm Tractors, FWD Truck, Super Stock Combo. Sponsored in part by PowerFarmer.com. For more information, visit NTPApull.com

Wednesday, July 17, 7 p.m., Fair Fiesta Extravaganza, featuring music by Tejano Sound Band and Los Estrellas de Oro. Bangor's own Abel Munoz will provide a musical set in between bands, as well as Alex Mauai. A mechanical bull will also be available for participants.

Thursday, July 17, 7 p.m., Lost Nations Rodeo.

Friday, July 18, 7 p.m., Super Kicker Rodeo Production, sponsored in part by Honor Credit Union.

Following the rodeo, at dusk, a free fireworks show will light up the fairground sky.

Hillside entertainment ends its weeklong run on Saturday, July 20, at 6 p.m., with TNT Bump 'n Run, plus Demo Derby.

Skerbeck Entertainment Group returns with midway entertainment, July 15-19, Tuesday through Saturday, opening daily at 3 p.m., and 1 p.m. Wednesday, Kids' Day. Wristbands are $30 (Wednesday only $25). An unlimited Megaband is $100 with purchase before Monday, July 14, at 5 p.m. at: skerbeck.com (The Top Gun ride requires four additional plus a mega or a wristband).

There will be free nightly music in the fair's Community Tent, beginning Monday night with Vineyard Chicks at 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 7p.m. - Schlitz Creek; Wednesday, 7 p.m. - Black River Band; Thursday, 7 p.m. - Carrie McFerrin; Friday, 7 p.m. – Full Measure; Friday, 9 p.m. – Scott Spears Trio; Saturday, 7 p.m. - Waylon Hanel; Saturday, 9 p.m. – The Boomers.

The Magic of Trino will be offered Wednesday, July 16 through Saturday July 19, with shows at 3 and 5 p.m. Whispering Pines Mobile Zoo will be on display all week.

Special days include Monday, July 14 – Armed Forces Day with free admission for veterans and active military all day. The day is sponsored in part by Consumers Credit Union. Monday's Farm Stock Tractor Pull is sponsored in part by Dorr Farms. Tuesday - Ladies Day and Senior Citizens' Day – free admission for ladies (19 and older) and seniors until 5 p.m. Wednesday – Kids' Day – Sponsored in part by Tapper Auto Group. A Bicycle Give Away will be held. Friday's Super Kicker Rodeo Production is sponsored in part by Honor Credit Union.

General admission is $10 for adults; $8 for senior citizens; children, six to 12, $5; and five and under, free. Gate season passes are $35 for adults; senior citizens, $30; children, ages six to 12, $25; and five and under are free.

For more information, visit: vanburenyouthfair.com., or call (269) 621-2038. The fair is also on Facebook.

The fairgrounds are located on the corner of County Road 681 and Red Arrow Highway, midway between Lawrence and Hartford, 55670 County Road 681, Hartford.

Borah honored with Life Saving Award

During a recent Van Buren County Board of Commissioners meeting, Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott, left, presented a Life Saving Award to Deputy Scotty Borah, right. The award cited Borah's "decisive response and quick action" on March 8, 2025, as Borah saved the life of a one-month-old child.

Photo courtesy/Van Buren County Sheriff's Office

Lawton's Summerfest to make return July 12

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

LAWTON - Following a year's absence due to downtown road construction and improvements, the Lawton Summerfest will return July 12, according to event organizers.

Highlights of the day will include a parade and fireworks at dusk.

From 2 to 8 p.m., Main Street will feature local vendors and crafters.

The Lawton Fire Department Hall will feature a variety of activities from 2 to 4 p.m., including kids' games and face painting with Maile & Friends

Raffle tickets for Great Wolf Lodge getaways will be available as well as Stomp Rockets located by HP Salon and Adams Hardware.

Cardio Drumming will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. in front of the food trucks.

Dunk Tank - 2 to 8 p.m.

Food trucks will be in operation at the fire department parking lot, beginning at 2 p.m.

A cornhole tournament for adults will be held on 2nd Street, between Railroad and Main streets, with registration starting at 1 p.m. and tournament action getting underway at 2 p.m. There will be a $20 buy-in, with a blind draw.

Three bounce houses (two for older kids and one for toddlers) will be set up at Reid's Corner from 4 to 9 p.m. Those participating in the bounce houses are asked to follow the posted rules.

The Summerfest Parade will begin at 5 p.m. with lineup starting at 4 p.m. at 3rd and Nursey streets. There is no registration required to participate in the parade. The parade route will travel down 3rd Street, then left on Main Street, and end at 4th Street. Candy will be allowed but must be thrown to the parade crowd.

The evening entertainment will begin at 6:45 p.m. with the National Anthem, sung by Dan Brooks. At 7 p.m., The Bronk Bros will take the stage.

Event organizers said alcohol will not be allowed in the streets for the family friendly event. Police will also be on hand, patrolling the event area.

Downtown road closures will begin at noon, with the event kicking off at 2 p.m.

Road closures will include the following:

- Main St. closes at noon. All vehicles must be moved off Main Street or they will remain there until midnight.
- Closure area will include M-40/Main Street, from White Oak Road to 4th Street.
- Side Streets Closed: 1st through 4th streets, from Main to Railroad streets.
- West side alleys will be closed behind Big T restaurant.
- Quiet Zone will include Franklin to Railroad streets.

No parking on 3rd Street, from 4 to 6 p.m. for parade visibility and safety.

Volunteers are still needed for the event and for cleanup. To volunteer, contact Heather Shannon at (269) 655-4262 (call/text) or email at: heathershannon0@gmail.com.

Zuiderveen, Miller honored by Lions Club

Rick Zuiderveen, left, and Bruce Miller, both members of the Paw Paw Lions Club, were recently honored as co-recipients of the Melvin Jones Fellow Award. The Melvin Jones Fellowship Award is the highest recognition given by Lions Clubs International. It honors individuals who demonstrate exceptional service and humanitarian ideals, mirroring the core principles of Lionism. Named after Melvin Jones, the founder of Lions Clubs International, the award acknowledges those who embody his spirit of service to their communities.

Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

Hindenach receives state tribute for 50 years of teaching

On Sunday, June 29, during the 11 a.m. service, Trinity Lutheran Church, Paw Paw, honored Deanna Hindenach for 50 years of teacher education. A total of 40 of those years were dedicated to her role at Trinity Lutheran School as a preschool director/teacher and as an elementary/middle school administrator and teacher. During the service, Hindenach received a State Special Tribute, which read in part, "Her dedication to education and her Christian faith has impacted hundreds of staff and thousands of students and families." She also received a plaque from the Trinity Lutheran School Board of Education, and a painting, entitled "Let the Little Children Come," presented by Trinity Lutheran School. The church also honored Hindenach and her husband, Robert "Butch" Hindenach as they marked their 62nd wedding anniversary also on that day. The couple were married in Trinity Lutheran Church.

Courier-Leader photo/Paul Garrod

SERVICE DIRECTORY

TO PLACE AN AD CALL (269) 657-3072 OR 657-5080
BEFORE MONDAY AT 5PM

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE

Sign Up Today for our E-Paper

IT'S EASY

Just visit our website @ epaper.wilcoxnewspaper.com
to start your $20.00 email Subscription.

Tony's LAWN CARE LLC

"Highest Quality at the Lowest Guaranteed Price"

Free Estimates
Commercial & Residential

269-539-1021
CALL or TEXT

OFFICE: 269-375-1425

WESTON SEPTIC, LLC

RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL

• Septic Tank Pumping • Install Risers

NOW HIRING!

Linda & Russ Weston, Owners

Double M Construction

Serving Southwest Michigan and surrounding areas

Metal Roofing
Complete Pole Barn Packages
Free Estimates

(269) 762-9920
56504 Butcher Road, Lawrence, MI 49064

Trouble with your water well?

Low Pressure?
Smelly Water?
No Water?

EARL SANDERS & SON WELL DRILLING INC.
Since 1943

269-806-6730
Email: earlsandersinc@hotmail.com

When protecting your Auto, Home and Life, the

EXPERIENCE MATTERS.

Call **Derek Lietzau** today!
(269) 655-1814
408 W. Michigan Ave. Paw Paw
DerekInsGroup.com

FARM BUREAU INSURANCE® A Company

---

mckenziemi.com 269-657-2548

MCKENZIE INSURANCE

Auto-Owners INSURANCE

LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Insurance for what matters most to you, since 1945.

Jim's Small Engine
43356 CR 653 Paw Paw MI 49079
Credit Cards Accepted
Chinsaws, mowers, snowblowers pressure washers, generators, etc.

269-674-9403

Larz Boley
Owner
LLC

Jaqua

SOUTH HAVEN'S TOP REAL ESTATE BROKER, 12 YEARS IN A ROW!

YOUR LAKESHORE REAL ESTATE EXPERT

Amy O'Sullivan
Associate Broker
www.SoldByAmyO.com
C.269.214.1257 | aosullivan@jaquarealtors.com

AS SEEN ON HGTV
513 Broadway St
South Haven, MI 49090

WE CAN DO IT ALL!!
NO JOB TOO BIG • NO JOB TOO SMALL

Interior/ Exterior Remodels Kitchens Framing Drywall Flooring Baths

Soffit/ Facia Pressure Washing Roofing Siding Decks etc.

HB Handyman Services
269-599-8532

Owner *Chris Hardenbrook*
Chardenbrook82@gmail.com

Residential/Commercial
Free Estimates!!

JANE KESTELOOT
SEEJANESHOP@YAHOO.COM
269•929•6162

Plain Jane's Antiques

- Vintage
- Rustic Decor
- Garden
- Jewelry
- Furniture
- Gift & Trinkets
- Primitives
- Antiquities
- Books
- Signs & Advertising

DOWNTOWN PAW PAW
229 E. Michigan Ave • Paw Paw, MI 49079

THE SHED EVENT RENTAL

TENT RENTAL, TABLES, CHAIRS & MORE

SHEDEVENTRENTAL.COM
INSTAGRAM @ SHEDEVENT
269-550-7945

Wet Basement?

RJ Waterproofing Contractors 3

- Internal/External Drain Tile Systems
- Water Seepage - Structural Wall & Floor Cracks
- Damp Wet Crawl Spaces
- Bowed & Cracked Walls
- Sump Pump/Emergency Backup System
- Mold Removal & Drywall Repair

24 Hour Emergency Service

Senior Discounts

269-337-7660

EXPERIENCED IN ALL METHODS OF BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

BATES HOME REMODELING

Brent Bates
Bates5601@gmail.com
269-350-3350

Interior Trim
Tuck Pointing
Aluminum Trim
Pre-Hung Doors
Bee Removal
Carpentry
Tile Installed
Concrete Work
Deck Specialist

CATERING & MORE!

• DINE IN • TAKE OUT • PARTY PLATTERS •
• BUFFET STYLE CATERING •

RENT OUR CAFE FOR YOUR PRIVATE EVENT FOR ONLY $50/HR
• BUSINESS MEETINGS • BIRTHDAY PARTIES • BABY SHOWERS • WEDDINGS • & MORE!

WALT & MARIE'S COUNTRY MARKET
44947 W RED ARROW HWY
PAW PAW, MI
269-657-7570

OLíVE CART

Curating Noteworthy Flavors

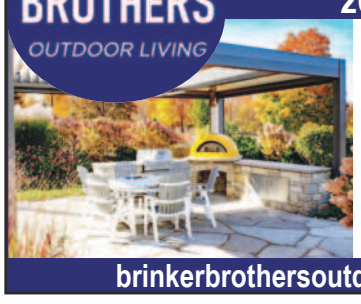
oliveoilstoremichigan.com

424 PHOENIX ST
SOUTH HAVEN, MI
(269) 637-4754

421 STATE ST
ST. JOSEPH, MI
(269) 281-0120

BRINKER BROTHERS
OUTDOOR LIVING

CUSTOMIZE YOUR OUTDOOR LIVING
269-806-4141



SERVICES
Azenco Pergolas
MagnaTrack Motorized Screens
Outdoor Kitchens
Decks & Railings
Outdoor Lighting
Endless Outdoor Features

Check out our website to see everything we offer

brinkerbrothersoutdoorliving.com

CAR CONNECTION

AUTO BODY AND SALES
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1983

Auto Body • Collision Repair • Insurance Work
Paint • Minor rust repair • Auto sales
Hours of operation • Mon - Fri; 9am to 5pm
22671 Red Arrow Hwy.,Mattawan, MI 49071

269-668-2379 • carconn.abs@gmail.com

J&S TREE SERVICES LLC
30 years in business
Free Estimates
Specialize in storm damage
Tree Removal • Tree Trimming
Stump Grinding

269-207-1682
Gobles, MI

Coastal Clean
housekeeping • home watch • handyman
Family Owned & Serving Southwest Michigan Since 2003

We're in your neighborhood!
- Residential cleaning
- Home Watch Services
- Commercial Cleaning
- Handyman Services

269-639-1515 • coastalclean.net

ROOFING & CONTRACTING

Protecting SW Michigan Properties For Over 20 Years!

ROOFING | SIDING | GUTTERS

269-359-ROOF ▪ aecroof.com ▪ Paw Paw, MI

COUNTY LINE NURSERIES SINCE 1942

DESIGN AND INSTALL LOCAL PLANT MATERIALS GROWN AT OUR OWN NURSERY
outdoor spaces, paver walks, pergolas
large variety of locally grown trees
decorative shrubs and greenery
new industry leading products
irrigation systems
outdoor kitchens

CALL MIKE AT 269.621.4543
www.CountyLineNurseries.net
Like us on Facebook.

Competitive pricing, cutting out the middleman.
Special discounts for Veterans and Seniors.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SERVICES
We Design to fit *your* lifestyle.

269-639-9000
www.LandscapeDS.com
A Bakker Family Business since 1968

Lawn Fertilization and Weed Control

Your Local Lawn & Landscape Experts

BOB TOLSMA PLUMBING
Bob Tolsma • 4215 Lincoln Rd., Holland, MI 49423
Office (616)836-1197 • bob@tolsmaplumbing.com

- New Constrution
- Remodels Insured
- Water heaters
- Water Softeners
- Water & Sewer Hookups
- 24 HR Emergency

LET ME FILL YOUR POOL
letmefillyourpool.net

FRITZ FARM TRANSPORT LLC
269-427-5039
BANGOR, MI 49013

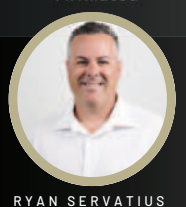
Clean Water Call For Rates

Allegan, Bangor, Bloomingdale, Coloma, Covert, Gobles, Hartford, Lawrence, Lawton, Kalamazoo, Mattawan, Oshtemo, Paw Paw, Portage, South Haven, Stevensville, St Joseph, Watervliet and surrounding communities

---

Your Local Market Expert

CENTURY 21 Affiliated



RYAN SERVATIUS
BROKER

25 Years of Real Estate Excellence.

Century 21 Affiliated SoHa
253 Center Street
South Haven, MI 49090
EMAIL: INFO@CALLRYAN.COM
CALL OR TEXT: 269.252.7926
WEBSITE: CALLRYAN.COM

Recoginized as Areas Most Awarded Broker

Rent a Water Softener for $35/mo.

Add an RO for only $5/mo more.

** Call for details*

Gordon WATER SYSTEMS

269-382-0068

SKP DESIGN STUDIO + SHOWROOM

Interior Design
110 W. Allegan St.
(M-89) Otsego, MI
269.377.6645
www.skpdesign.com
Sondra@skpdesign.com

2ND FRONT PAGE

One dead in Covert Twp house fire

Multiple fire departments from Van Buren and Berrien counties responded to a structure fire on the 7200 block of 36th Avenue, Covert Township of Van Buren County on Sunday night. Dispatched shortly before 10 p.m. were firefighters from Covert Township who were joined by the Bangor, North Berrien, Watervliet and South Haven fire departments. When responders arrived, fire was coming through the roof and witnesses told them the homeowner was still inside. The 69-year old man was found deceased in the home. The cause of the fire is under investigation by the Michigan State Police Fire Marshal and Covert Township Police Department.

Putting the "Go" in Gobles, library leads historic walking tours

From rumrunners and devastating fires to bustling industry, Gobles has a rich and colorful history. This year, take a step back in time with a special walking tour series hosted by the Van Buren District Library's Gobles Branch.

"The goal of these tours is to explore the city and gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for our community and collective past. Throughout Gobles, numerous sites of memory reveal a complex and interesting history," says Nora Harris, VBDL staff member and walking tour guide. "The ability to walk around and see these sites up close provides a compelling entrance into an ongoing discussion of the city's history!"

On June 28, Nora led walkers through the Prohibition Era, seeking out local speakeasies and exploring how this controversial law impacted the city of Gobles.

The next tour will take place on Saturday, July 26, at 11am, and will highlight Gobles' industrial and business history. This special edition of the Putting the Go in Gobles Local History Tours will be fully accessible. Participants will gather under the shaded pavilion at Gobles City Park on South State Street to discuss the city's industrial development. This seated program is perfect for those who are interested in local history but may prefer not to walk.

More walking tours are planned for August 30, September 27, and October 25, all beginning at 11am. Upcoming topics include devastating fires, the Kal-Haven Trail, and Gobles' haunted history.

All tours are free, and registration is requested. To sign up, contact the VBDL Gobles Branch at 269-628-4537 or email Gobles@vbdl.org. The VBDL Gobles Branch is located at 105 East Main Street, Gobles, MI 49055. For more information on upcoming events, visit vbdl.org/events.

Making a Splash!

With the first day of summer experienced June 20, at 10:42 p.m., Mother Nature turned up the heat with temperatures in the 90s. That prompted the Lawrence Township Emergency Services Fire Department on Monday, June 23, to set a fire truck at the Lawrence Village Park and turn on the water hose on for area children to beat the heat. Courier-Leader photo/ Paul Garrod

GET YOUR NEWS ONLINE
Sign Up Today for our E-Papers.
IT'S EASY!
Just visit our website @epaper.wilcoxnewspapers.com to start your $20.00 email Subscription.

FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY
FREE COFFEE | FREE POPCORN | FREE COTTON CANDY
4TH OF JULY BLOW OUT!
Now through the 4th of July *(while supplies last)*
LIQUIDATIONS EST LIZEL'S 2025 & THRIFT STORE
Get an InstantScratch Off Ticket & Test your Luck with.
(with purchase)
Win Super Prizes, List on Board:
You Could Win:
• Up to 25% off your Entire Purchase
• 50% OFF Any one (1) item.
• Free Jar of Lizel's Zesty Creations
• Any other prize that crosses my mind
(Prizes Change Daily) (Valid While Tickets Last)
HOURS
10am - 6pm • Tuesday to Sunday
PHONE: 269-366-7434
102 S. State St., Gobles, MI

Beach safety a concern for everyone

By James Windell

South Haven is blessed with seven beaches. Which is why the area attracts thousands of tourists each summer.

But while the beaches are lovely and the swimming in Lake Michigan can be refreshing and cooling, it's well to remember that swimming in Lake Michigan can be treacherous.

That is a major concern for South Haven city officials and those responsible for protecting vacationers and residents alike. The South Haven City Manager and the City Council are planning a lifeguard program in the future, however, at present swimmers and those who are venturing into the waters at South Haven's beaches are on their own to make sure they are safe from water accidents.

With the potential for water mishaps very real, it's important to remind people of the hazards and the best way to avoid being the victim of a swimming mishap.

"We encourage all those planning to spend time on our beaches to do three things," says Matthew Dey, Beach Safety and Facilities Superintendent for South Haven. "First, respect the power of Lake Michigan, where conditions can change in a matter of minutes. Second, understand the red-yellow-green flag system and doublecheck conditions before going in the water. Third, understand your limitations as a swimmer and take advantage of the life-saving devices that are free and available for your safety."

People familiar with the power of Lake Michigan say that even though you may be a strong and experienced swimmer, you can easily be overwhelmed by the waves in Lake Michigan. Waves on some windy days may reach as high as 8 to 12 feet – and on particularly windy days even much higher

"South Haven beaches are beautiful and considered some of the finest in the State of Michigan," says Brandon Hinz, Executive Director of South Haven Area Emergency Services, "but we can never underestimate the power of Lake Michigan."

Many people think that swimming in the area of South Haven's attractive piers is safe. "But there is no swimming within 50 feet of the pier," says Dey as a reminder. "While it may look like the safest spot to swim, it's actually the most dangerous location as you have a structural current that runs along both piers. Depending on the direction of the winds, you may have currents that collide and move faster and stronger. Jumping, diving and pushing off the piers is against a city ordinance."

Both Hinz and Dey caution those planning on going into the water at one of the seven beaches to plan ahead properly, scout the weather and lake conditions, and be aware of the flags before entering the water. The city has beach safety flags that are flown at the beaches to signal the conditions for swimming.

A Green Flag indicates there are calm conditions and while caution should always be exercised when entering the water, swimming is likely safe. A Yellow Flag indicates there is a moderate surf and/or currents. A Red Flag tells people that the water is closed to the public due to the high surf and/or strong currents. When a Red Flag is displayed at the beach, rip currents are especially prevalent and dangerous along the piers. Fines may be issued for anyone who goes into the water during Red Flag conditions. A Gray Flag appearing on a map indicates that either no information is available or that conditions are not being monitored.

An ordinance, adopted in January, 2022, gives the city broad authority to close beaches and piers when conditions are unsafe. Violators face a $1,000 fine and civil infraction for ignoring the ordinance, which also prohibits diving or jumping from a pier.

At the time of the city council passing this ordinance, City Manager Kate Hosier said: "By passing this ordinance, we are taking an aggressive stance on water safety. Not only are swimmers and beachgoers at risk when they disregard warning signs, their actions put first responders and rescue teams in harm's way, too."

In addition to flags and signs that caution people at the beaches, South Haven also has pier safety boxes and life jacket stations.

The pier safety boxes are blue metal boxes that contain a portable flotation device with rope and a rope throw bag. There are three boxes located on the north pier and three on the south pier. The Pier safety boxes are numbered one through three with the corresponding letter "S" or "N" for South or North pier.

There are a total of 15 life jacket loaner stations at beaches in and around South Haven. Each board has 20 jackets, and anyone can use one. "The jackets are a simple yet powerful way to protect lives – offering peace of mind and safety of users," says South Haven Mayor Annie Brown.

Eleven Life Rings, which are buoyant devices designed to protect a person struggling to stay afloat, will be available this summer for added protection for those using the beaches.

Finally, the South and North Beaches are patrolled by beach enforcement attendants who help educate beachgoers about water and pier safety. Although they can issue citations, their main job is to educate visitors about the rules and the dangers on South Haven's beaches.

"I'm grateful for our beach patrol staff who are doing a great job to keep our swimmers safe," comments Mayor Brown.

For more information and alerts, go to https://www.shaes.org/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=public:beach_safety

Also, visitors to the beaches are encouraged to text 888777 BEACHES to receive regular updates on beach and water conditions throughout the summer.

"Sunflower Film Festival: "A resounding success"

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

PAW PAW - The Sunflower Film Festival, held recently at The Lucky Wolf, Paw Paw, was "a resounding success," according to the event's organizer.

Lucky Wolf owner Jason Deibler-Love, said the event featured a diverse selection of films from around the world, including Australia, Belgium, the United Kingdom, and various locations across the United States. "Filmmakers and attendees traveled to Paw Paw from as far as Mexico, California, Philadelphia, New York, and New Jersey, as well as from closer locales such as Caledonia, Grand Rapids, Detroit, and Plymouth," said Deibler-Love.

According to Deibler-Love, attendance soared by over 800 percent compared to last year. The figure doesn't include the filmmakers who participated.

"We're hoping to welcome back all the musical acts from the festival for future events in Paw Paw, including Arcola Bridge, Harmonic Roots, and Chris Plum & The Eagle Club Jazz Band," said Deibler-Love.

Deibler-Love told those who attended Friday night's music and films that he and his wife, India Summer Deibler-Love moved to Paw Paw "to start something special in my home state."

He said, "We found this space. And we made it into something special, we thought. It was good. We were proud of what we'd made and humbled by the community that seemed to maybe like what we'd created, too. And then, people continued to gather, support, and champion the Lucky Wolf out of nothing but love and recognition. They recognized what we were trying to do. They saw us. And I wish it stayed just that way forever. But none of us "see" India anymore. Not in the physical world. India took her own life in November of 2023. Coming all the way to Paw Paw from California wasn't far enough for her to outrun her trauma. It caught up with her," said Deibler-Love.

He continued, "We started the India Love Sunflower Foundation, and this festival, to try to help others face up to whatever's chasing them. To confront it, through the power of community and acceptance and sunlight, they feel seen and empowered to expect a different life ahead.

"As the foundation's central event, the Sunflower Film Festival plays to our collective strengths, but also the enduring strength of film. Movies are empathy-building machines. They put the marginalized and the powerless at the center of our consciousness in a way that few other things can. As manifestations of the audacious human reach for community, acceptance, and knowledge, they can make the silent loud and the invisible indelible," said Deibler-Love.

He concluded, "We're so grateful and happy that you're here today. The films you'll see throughout this festival are what they are because of what we're trying to do. We hope that through the art these filmmakers have made, you'll feel seen, and that the filmmakers feel seen, too.

Deibler-Love said, "Enjoy the films, the festival, and the togetherness that would've made India so incredibly proud."

This year's sponsors included: Destination Paw Paw, Jerry Mitchell, Knotek Law Office, the Village of Paw Paw, and Land of Light Community; added support of J. Adam Bennett, Luc's Light, Made by Lacey Green, Lauren Heinz, St. Julian Winery, Walmart, and Wonder Wheel Productions.

The graphic introduction was made by Lacey Green, with the Sunflower Film Festival logo by Lauren Heinz, and vocals by India Love.

OBITUARIES

William Garfield Butler

William Garfield Butler, 63 yrs old, formerly of Paw Paw, unexpectedly passed away on June 5, 2025. He leaves to cherish loving memories sons William, Austin and Julian. Services were held on June 23, 2025 at Bible Baptist Church, Kalamazoo MI. To leave online messages of condolence, please visit www.whitleymemorialfuneralhome.com

Dr. David Millard

Dr. David Millard passed peacefully into the arms of Jesus on Jan. 30, 2025. David was born Feb. 9, 1928, in Three Rivers, Michigan, the son of Carl E. Millard and Bernice (Allen) Millard.

David graduated from Three Rivers High School (1945) and obtained his undergraduate and Medical (1953) degrees from the University of Michigan.

David married Margaret Bowker in 1950. David and Margaret shared 14 years of friendship followed by 63 years of a loving marriage prior to her passing in 2013. David met Margaret in sixth grade while playing croquet at a Ladies Aid picnic.

In 1955, he was drafted into the Navy and was assigned as the only medical physician on the USS Magoffin APA 199. He was responsible for the health and well-being of the 600 crew members, the Marines, and other passengers.

Upon completing his active military service, David and Margaret settled in the community of Paw Paw, Michigan. David served the community of Paw Paw in Family Practice and as a medical examiner for more than 40 years. He was also on the board of Lake View Community Hospital and a member of the Michigan State and Van Buren County Medical Societies. During his semi-retirement years, he was Medical Director of Hospice for Van Buren and Cass counties.

David and Margaret raised four children, Nancy, Carol, Vicki and Bill. They actively supported their children's various school, scouting and Van Buren Folk Dancers adventures.

The family enjoyed traveling the United States in their RV. Once the children were grown, David and Margaret added international travel to their RV excursions. Several trips included researching their genealogy and heritage.

David and his family were members of the Paw Paw United Methodist Church. David served on the Administrative Council, Finance Committee and was chairman of the Endowment Committee for many years.

Work, faith and family were the cornerstones of David's life.

David is survived by his four children, Nancy (Brian) Huntsman, Carol (Darrell) Roose, Vicki (James) McElheny, William (Susie) Millard; his eight grandchildren, Kelli and Joshua Huntsman, Michelle Ryan, Kevin Roose, Kirk McElheny, Teri Fanizza, David and Nathaniel Millard; and his five great grandchildren, Chase and Hailey McElheny, Sutton and Benjamin Fanizza and Lincoln Roose.

David was laid to rest privately at Riverside Cemetery, Three Rivers. Family and friends are invited to visit on Saturday, July 12, from noon to 1 p.m. at Paw Paw United Methodist Church, 420 W. Michigan Ave, Paw Paw. A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m.

Share a memory or sign the online guestbook at adamspawpaw.com

Avink, McCowen & Secord Funeral Homes

Loss is hard enough...
Service should be easy

Avink McCowen Secord
Funeral Homes
and Cremation Society

Vicksburg
(269) 649-1697
Manager
Steve McCowen

Schoolcraft
(269) 679-5622
Manager
Zach Siple

Portage
(269) 344-5600
Manager
Chris Keyes

Plainwell
(269) 685-5881
Manager
Tim Secord

www.amsfuneralhomes.com

A-1 MOBILE ROOF-OVER SYSTEMS INC.

QUALITY ROOF-OVER FOR MOBILE HOMES

MOBILE OR DOUBLE-WIDE ALUMINUM ROOF-OVER

We all know how crazy the world economy has become. Businesses do not know day to day what material prices will be.

To protect our customers and our business, A-1 Mobile purchased and stored two full semi loads of aluminum coil stock – meaning you can have your new mobile home roof with no price increase.

Insulation
Thick Polystyrene Foam
keeps homes warmer in the winter
and cooler in the summer
A-1 Mobile cannot predict your heating cost.
However, we do guarantee at least
32 per cent less fuel burned

Better Business Bureau A+ Rating

Call for free estimate
269-628-4771

SPORTS

South Haven girls celebrate huge season

By John Raffel
Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN —It was a unique championship season for South Haven's softball team.

Coach Wilma Wilson points out South Haven was an academic all-state team. Grace Strebeck and Molly Veseput were all-state academic seniors.

South Haven was 10-0 in the SAC Lakeshore Division. All-conference players were Addison Dekoning, Madi Dotson, Mady Duda, Grace Strebeck and Verseput.

Reagan Hahn was honorable mention all-conference.

Addison DeKoning as outfielder, Dotson as catcher, Strebeck as shortstop and Molly Verseput as pitcher. Dotson earned all-region accolades.

South Haven won the softball district championship with a dramatic walk off home run in the finals.

South Haven improved its record to 23-14 after defeating Stevensville Lakeshore 7-5 to advance to the Regional round against Wayland at Lakeshore.

The Lady Rams cut the Lakeshore lead to 5-3 with a pair of runs in the sixth inning. With two outs and with two runners on-base, senior Grace Strebeck belted a 3-run home run to win the game.

It is South Haven's first district championship since 2018 and another in the career of coach Wilma Wilson who has led South Haven's softball program for more than 30 years.

Molly Verseput earned the win for South Haven, allowing seven hits and five runs over seven innings, striking out two and walking six.

Special honors this season for South Haven softball went to from left, Mady Duda, Reagan Hahn, Grace Strebeck, Madi Dotson, Molly Verseput and Addison DeKoning.

South Haven celebrated its first district title since 2018 in softball.

Paw Paw infielder enjoys dream season

Aliya Edson was a key softball infielder for Paw Paw this season.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Aliya Edson won't forget this season for the Paw Paw softball team for a long time.

Edson and her teammates stormed to a 37-4 season, going all the way to the state finals before losing 3-0 to Richmond in the title game.

After her team won the regional title, Edson and the Red Wolves were on cloud nine.

"It's pretty amazing what all the girls can do," she said. "This is our first time (winning this title)."

Edson started at catcher or first base for Paw Paw

The Wolves were impressive in 6-3 and 6-2 wins respectively over Edwardsburg and Wayland in the regionals.

"I think definitely our pitching helped us a lot," Edson said. "I think everyone were all excited for each other."

When it came to hitting, "I think I definitely could have done better. But I think overall I hit the ball pretty decent."

Edson batted around .450 for Paw Paw. She had a single that helped start a rally in a regional victory.

The key to hitting well at this level, Edson said, is "Making sure you keep things out of your head."

Edson said the team was confident coming into this season it could be a special one.

The Wolves had seventh-inning rallies over Coldwater in the quarterfinals and Carleton Airport in the semifinals. Another major moment was a huge come from behind rally over Vicksburg.

Edson also plays travel softball and has been in the sport her whole life.

"I played as soon as I could have." she said "It's always been a big thing in my family"

Paw Paw boys led by sprinter

Bye John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW —Paw Paw's boys track team had a very competitive season in 2025.

Paw Paw scored 54 points in the Wolverine Conference championship meet.

Ben Miller was a league runner-up in the 100-meter dash in 11.26 seconds for a personal record.

Landon Brown was fourth in the 400 meters in 52.61 seconds.

Barron Marinich was fourth in the 110-meter hurdles (16.87). He was also third in the 300-meter hurdles in 42.94 seconds.

Paw Paw's 4x100 relay team of Silas Penning, Truman Brennan, Barron Marinich and Ben Miller was third in 44.68 seconds.

Miller was a junior this season and the 100 was usually his best event.

Brown had a strong season in the 400. He was first in 53.50 seconds at the Paw Paw Lions Invitational. He later got his personal record of 52.58 seconds in the JT Long Invitational at Kalamazoo.

Marinich was an excellent hurdler for Paw Paw. In the 110 meters, he set a personal record of 16.87 seconds in the league meet. He had won a meet at Plainwell.

He was excellent in the 300 meters. He started out the season second at the Paw Paw Invitational in 44.30 seconds and then won at Edwardsburg n 45.91 seconds, and took second at Allegan Invitational in 42.92 seconds and second at Sturgis in 45.13 seconds.

Paw Paw sprinter enjoys strong season

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — Taylor Thorpe was among the Paw Paw girls track and field athletes who had strong seasons for the Red Wolves.

She was second the 200 meters in the Wolverine Conference meet in 25.82 seconds. She qualified for the state finals and had a personal record of 25.51 seconds to place sixth in that event.

Thorpe also had a strong season in the 100-meter dash. She won the first four races of the season and was 12.92 seconds at the Paw Paw Lions Invitational, 14.03 seconds at Edwardsburg, 12.83 seconds at the Allegan Invitational prelims and 12.55 seconds in the finals for a personal record.

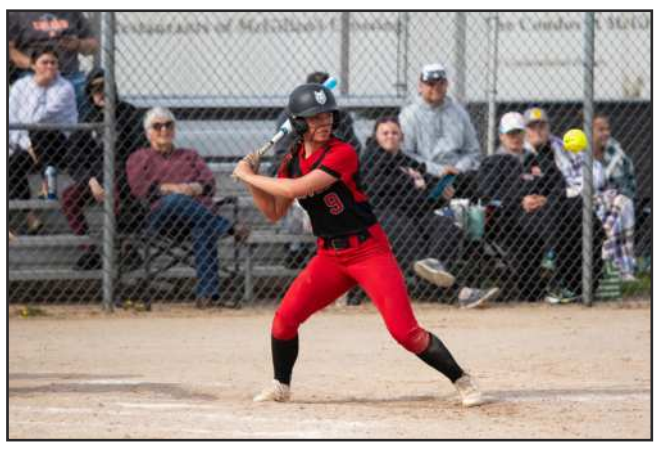
Thorpe, a sophomore, also shined in the 400 meters, taking second with a personal record of 59.29 seconds at the regionals in Berrien Springs. She was 14th in the state finals in 59.51 seconds, Her first three races of the season she took first: 1:00.20 at the Paw Paw Lions Invitational, 1:02.62 at Edwardsburg and 1:00.98 at the Allegan Invitational.

Madison Johnson also had a nice season as a senior. She was third in the conference championship in 2:25.89.5 and had a season record of 2:24.51 for fifth place in the regional. She was 22nd at the state finals in 2:28.97.

Mecenzie Allen was third in the 100 meter hurdles with a personal record of 16.52 seconds and was eighth at the regional meet. Allen was second the high jump in the league meet with a personal record of 5-1.

AJ Rickli was second at the league meet in the shootout with a throw of 34-7 and was fourth with a personal record of 36-3 in the regionals. She was fourth in the discus in the league meet with a throw of 105-2.

Vanderburg recalls special home run moment



Elizabeth Vanderburg had several dramatic hitting moments for Paw Paw.

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PAW PAW — It only seems like yesterday when Elizabeth Vanderburg belted her dramatic two-out two run homer in the bottom of the seventh and last inning for a thrilling 3-2 semifinal win over Carleton Airport at Michigan State.

For all the Paw Paw softball fans who cherished that moment, it DOES seem like yesterday.

Paw Paw won that game to advance to the state finals against Carleton Airport and despite a 3-0 loss, it was still a special season.

After the regional title win, Vanderburg was extremely upbeat, perhaps not imagining the dramatic moments which were coming up including the walkout wins in the quarterfinals over Goldwater and the semifinals over Carleton.

"I think we played amazing," Vanderburg said after the regional title. "We stayed disciplined and hit the ball really well. Once the game was close, we had to come back and be able to hit the ball and get ahead. It shows how well we've been doing well all season."

Paw Paw won its conference, district and regional and finished at 37-4.

"It's been a little bit of everything," Vanderburg, who had several walkoff homers besides the Carleton game, said. "Our whole lineup for hitting is strong, There's no part that is weak. We all trust each other to get on and hit each other around. Our defense is well, even though we're a young team. We make limited errors and have strong pitching."

It's Vanderburg's second varsity season.

"We had a good season last year but definitely bond together well this year," Vanderburg said. "We have a stronger lineup and defense than last year."

Paw Paw lost its first district game last year.

At shortstop, "I feel that I have a lot of range," Vanderburg said. "We turn in a lot of double plays. I have played shortstop and midfield just about my whole life."

She batted around .500 all season and had 12 home runs.

In the first round of districts, bottom of the 10th inning, it was tied 1-1 and Vanderburg hit a walkout home run over Otsego.

Her last one she hit this season will also never be forgotten.

Crowley has strong season in the throws

By John Raffel
Correspondent

Davyne Crowley had a strong season in the throws as a junior for South Haven's girls track team this season.

Crowley was very effective in the shot put and won her first four meets. She threw the shot 32-1 and 31-10 in home meets at South Haven to open the season. Then she had a season record of 33-9 at the Watervliet Relays for first and third with 31-9 for another first in a SAC meet.

After a few more meets, she threw the shot put 32-8.5. She threw it 30-6 at the Comstock Invitational for second and was ninth at the regional meet at 32-7.

Crowley also did well in the discus throwing it 72-8 for first place at South Haven to open the season and 75-6 for first place at home in the next meet. She was fifth at 75-4 at the Watervliet Relays and third at 74-9 in a SAC Tri meet.

At the conference meet, Crowley was seventh at 89-7 but a week later had her personal record of 92-10 to take second at the Comstock Invitational.

Olivia Weaver had a good season in the pole vault, with an effort of 7-6 for seventh in conference and 8-0 for third at the Comstock Invitational. Her PR was 8-6.

Stiles played key role for Mattawan lacrosse

By John Raffel
Correspondent

MATTAWAN — No one played as key of a role for Mattawan's lacrosse team, which advanced to the state semifinals this season, than Spencer Stiles.

The Mattawan senior said hard work and discipline was the key to the team's success.

"Every day every one gave 100 percent," he said. "We also had incredible strong chemistry as our team has played together for many, many years.

"We knew we were talented but without discipline and execution, talent doesn't perform. We knew we could make a run and it was through our preparation that turned our expectations into reality."

Stiles played midfield and said his role was "possessing the ball for our team at the face off and executing on both offense and defense."

He proved to be a strong shooter.

"Lacrosse is an amazing game," he said. "I love the team aspect the physicality, and the many emotional swings throughout game."

Beating Haslett in the state quarterfinals was a major thrill along with beating Holland Christian for the regional title.

Stiles also played football.

But said he really loves the "fast pace"of lacrosse.

"It was an incredible season filled with tons of special memories that our entire team will cherish forever," he said. "Our season displays the beauty of sports and the impact it can have on our lives."

FOUNE
WELL DRILLING INC.
Since 1970
RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL - IRRIGATION
WELL DRILLING & REPAIR
4" - 8" Wells
Specializing in 5" PVC Wells
Member of Michigan and National Ground Water Association
GROUND WATER PROFESSIONALS
628-2700
33215 M-43 • Paw Paw
STATE LICENSE #80-2159
0504-15FL

insurance the right way.
the human way.
simple human sense
MCKENZIE INSURANCE
303 E Michigan, Paw Paw, MI 49079
Hrs: Mon-Fri, 9-5; Sat by Appt.
mckenziemi.com • 269.657.2548
Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Happy 4th of July!
Wishing you a Bright and Happy Fourth of July.
Grace A. Gant, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
179 W. Michigan Avenue
Suite 3
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-0047
Jay Doll, CFP®
Financial Advisor
816 E. Michigan Avenue
Suite 102
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-415-0136
EJB-9811F-A-E-DA AECSPAD 25598047

VIEWPOINT

Health costs soar, some hospitals benefit

I just read a report from the Michigan Health Purchasers Coalition (MIHPC) that essentially concluded that larger hospitals have had profits increased dramatically.

Now we all know, if we have spent any time in a hospital, we are charged exorbitant amounts for the most sundry items such as aspirin. You can't get out of a hospital without spending tens of thousands of dollars.

The hospitals of course blame insurance companies and vice versa. Big Pharma shares the blame as well. The blame game is passed around, all to the detriment of the patients. Many experts acknowledge publicly our health care system is sick and won't be able to be maintained over the long run.

I feel sorry for smaller hospitals. They are unable to keep up with the costs of operation, and many of them are closing or being absorbed by the bigger guys. That's unfortunate because some might argue the smaller guys offered more personable care and cared for the people and community they were located in.

But then again, maybe hospitals struggling with profitability need to be like small businesses. "Small businesses are experts in doing more with less- while providing top-notch goods and services to their communities," said Brian Calley, President and CEO of the Small Business Association of Michigan. "Small businesses need hospitals to do the same thing- identify ways to provide exceptional care for patients, while lowering costs."

This is what Bret Jackson, President of MIHPC has to say. "Prices for hospital services have increased by nearly 250 percent over the past 25 years- faster than the cost of college tuition, childcare and housing. Meanwhile the extreme profits of the largest hospital systems are out of balance making it challenging for patients to afford necessary treatments."

The MIHPC report shows 17 percent of Michigan hospitals have an operating margin of below 4 percent. Most of these are small hospitals located in rural areas. However, 23 hospitals have a profit margin of over 20 percent, with eight hospitals showing profit margins over 30 percent.

The highly profitable hospitals are Corewell Health, Henry Ford Health, McLaren Health and Trinity Health. They appear to be making money hand over fist at the expense of their patients.

20 percent is exceptional in the business world. 30 percent is highway robbery. No company should show that kind of profit, yet bigger hospital conglomerates are doing just that.

Calley added, "It's disappointing to see this level of profit margin when small businesses are continually feeling the pain of crushing health care costs. We're hopeful that Michigan's hospitals will turn their focus to structural reforms that reduce costs so that small businesses can afford t continue providing health care for their employees."

Calley represents businesses. But what about the individual? Why should they pay exorbitant health care costs when the hospital their insurance company sends them to is making 30 percent profit? That's simply outrageous. One has to wonder what the profit margins for the larger health insurance companies is? Are they also showing huge profits?

Enough of my rant.

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

MAY EACH And EVERY READER have a fun-filled, safe 4th of July weekend.

County Commissioners oppose MDHHS plan to implement competitive procurement process for health plans

By Paul Garrod
Staff Writer
news4garrod@gmail.com

PAW PAW - Van Buren County Commissioners on June 24, went on record formally opposing the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) plan to implement a competitive procurement process for Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs).

The State of Michigan currently operates a publicly managed and community-based system for the delivery of specialty behavioral health services through 10 Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans (PIHPs), which are responsible for managing Medicaid mental health, developmental disability, and substance use disorder services.

The current PIHP system has consistently demonstrated value, local accountability, and community engagement, while successfully managed costs and improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently announced plans to initiate a competitive procurement process for the management of PIHP functions, which may open the door to private, non-profit health plans or managed care organizations (MCOs) assuming control over behavioral health services.

Commissioners said such privatization could disrupt longstanding relationships between local mental health authorities, providers, and the communities they serve, and jeopardize the person-centered, recovery-oriented approach that has been cultivated under the public system. Many stakeholders, including individuals receiving services, advocates, local officials, and providers have expressed significant concerns about the potential impact of a competitive procurement process on care quality, access, local control, and transparency.

Commissioners said counties across Michigan have historically played a vital role in the governance, funding, and oversight of the public behavioral health system, and any change to that structure without meaningful county input undermines the principle of local governance.

Commissioners further stated maintaining a publicly accountable and locally governed behavioral health system is essential to ensure that individuals with mental health and substance use service receive timely, appropriate, and high-quality care.

Commissioners, in a resolution urged Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and the Michigan Legislature to halt any plans for privatization and instead work collaboratively with counties, PIHPs, Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs), service users, and other stakeholders to strengthen and improve the public behavioral health system, by only allowing public organizations with experience in managing Michigan's public mental health system to be part of any bid process should one occur.

A copy of the resolution was to be transmitted to Governor Whitmer, MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel, members of the Michigan Legislature representing Van Buren County, Senator Aric Nesbitt, Representative Pauline Wendzel and Representative Joey Anderson and the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC).

Commissioners approved the re-appointment of Melanie Giddings and Faith Dowd to four-year terms on the Van Buren Public Transit Local Advisory Council, to expire on July 1, 2029.

The Van Buren Public Transit Local Advisory Council (LAC) serves to provide community input and advocacy in support of public transit planning and accessibility for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and other riders within Van Buren County. Giddings and Dowd have both served multiple terms on the LAC, with Giddings representing education and disabled constituents and Dowd representing the Area Agency on Aging and senior constituents.

Commissioners said both Giddings and Dowd have demonstrated long-standing commitment and effective participation in advancing the council's mission and ensuring inclusive transit services.

Commissioners approved the appointment of Van Buren County Commissioner Kurt Doroh as the Van Buren County elected official representative to the Materials Management Planning Commission (MMPC).

Commissioners said Doroh's appointment would ensure the county's interests are represented and its responsibilities fulfilled. It would also support the ongoing work of the MMPC and enhance Van Buren County's engagement with regional materials management strategies in compliance with EGLE planning requirements.

The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission (SWMPC), in coordination with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), made recommendations for appointments to the Materials Management Planning Commission (MMPC). The MMPC is charged with regional coordination of materials management planning efforts and includes balanced representation from Van Buren, Berrien, and Cass counties, as well as the Pokagon Sovereign Nation.

Due to ongoing scheduling conflicts, Van Buren County's representation on the MMPC changed and a new appointment was needed to ensure consistent participation.

Commissioners approved a request from the Van Buren County Veterans Services Department for out-of-state travel to attend the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers (NACVSO) training conference, July 11-18, in Louisville, Ky.

This training is required to maintain national accreditation and Veterans Service Department (VSD) status, ensuring continued eligibility to represent veterans in the preparation and filing of benefit claims with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Commissioners said ongoing accreditation is essential to maintaining integrity, professionalism, and effectiveness of Van Buren County's services to its veteran population. The department has followed all applicable policies in preparing this travel request and is seeking board approval to proceed with arrangements.

Commissioners approved a lake level approving assessments resolution for Saddle Lake, located in Columbia Township.

Joe Parman, Van Buren County Drain Commissioner, as the delegated authority designated by the Van Buren County Board of Commissioners under Part 307 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act 451 of 1994, as amended, has jurisdiction to operate and maintain the normal lake levels of Saddle Lake.

A special assessment district was established by the Van Buren County Circuit Court for Saddle Lake. A public hearing was held on June 5, to review the computation of costs of a lake level project and a corresponding special assessment roll consistent with the requirements of Part 307.

The drain commissioner presented the computation of costs of the project and the special assessment roll to the board for final approval. The board has reviewed the computation of costs of the project and the special assessment roll presented by the drain commissioner.

Commissioners approved the following:

1. The board approved the computation of costs of the project and the special assessment roll as presented by the drain commissioner.

2. The special assessment roll with the assessments shall be final and conclusive unless appealed in court within 15 days of the adoption of this resolution.

3. The Van Buren County clerk will forward to the drain commissioner a copy of the resolution so that action can be instituted by Van Buren County in an expedient manner.

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as the same that may be in conflict herewith are hereby rescinded.

County central dispatcher receives promotion

Van Buren County Central Dispatcher Chad Kirby has been promoted to the Quality Assurance/ Training Coordinator Dispatch Supervisor. "Chad is in his ninth year of service with our Dispatch Center. Chad is also a CTO, CAD specialist, and licensed paramedic," said Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott.

At the Medical Control Authority Meeting, the 'Cares 2024' report was reviewed. "That report contains data from cardiac arrest cases and tracks the outcomes. A couple of items that are noteworthy involve both dispatchers and law enforcement involvement in cardiac arrest cases. It is clear from the data that due to the proficiency and compliance of dispatchers to over the phone protocols of EMD and coupled with the high degree of law enforcement responses to these incidents, Van Buren County patients have a more than double survival rate than that of statewide and national reporting," said Sheriff Abbott. "This is a huge outcome starting with our dispatchers processing the call, law enforcement responding to these calls, medical first responders going to the calls, and the transport EMS providers aggressive treatment in the field. Medical Control acknowledged the entire chain of involvement, but a special note to dispatchers and responding law enforcement officers for making a significant impact on the survival rates. This once again is a great example of the highly trained professionals we have in our county of dispatchers, law enforcement, fire departments, and EMS," said Sheriff Abbott.

"If you are interested in being a part of our office, we are now taking Reserve Deputy applications. If you go to the county website under applications, you can apply there. If you have any questions about what the Reserve Division does here, please reach out to our office," said Sheriff Abbott.

Van Buren County Sheriff's Office Uniform Response handled a two vehicle/motorcycle PIA (personal injury accident) in Antwerp Township. The investigation found that an Indian Cruiser hit a Harley Trike from behind. Both riders were transported to the hospital for serious injuries. The accident remains under investigation.

Uniform Response handled an MDOP (malicious destruction of property) in Almena Township. An investigation found that unknown subjects threw eggs at residences in a subdivision.

Uniform Response handled an assault complaint in Breedsville. The investigation found the incident stemmed over money which led to a physical altercation. The aggressor was lodged for the assault.

Uniform Response handled a felonious assault complaint in Waverly Township. The investigation found that the suspect swung a hammer to smash a keyboard and struck the victim in the hand. "The victim did go to the hospital for treatment. Due to conflicting information and some things were not adding up, the report was sent over to the Van Buren County Prosecutor's Office for review," said Sheriff Abbott.

Uniform Response handled a motorcycle PIA in Pine Grove Township. The single motorcycle crashed in the front yard of a residence and told deputies a loose dog caused it. "No dog was found running around and there's a question if that was the cause," said Sheriff Abbott. The driver was cited for DWLS (driving while license suspended), improper plate, and no proof of insurance. He was transported to the hospital for his injuries.

Van Buren County Central Dispatch received multiple calls about a vehicle on M-43 highway that was "all over the road going in oncoming traffic." Deputies were able to get into position and stop the vehicle in Arlington Township. The driver was found to be highly intoxicated with his 13-year-old son in the vehicle. The driver was charged with operating under the influence of alcohol with a high BAC and occupant in the vehicle under 16. "Thank you to everyone who called in on this, you were crucial in getting the driver off the roadway before he hit a vehicle head on," said Sheriff Abbott.

THE COURIER LEADER
PAW PAW FLASHES
SOUTH HAVEN BEACON

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY WILCOX NEWSPAPERS, LLC
PO Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 657-3072 • wilcoxnewspapers.com

Publisher - Mike Wilcox
Graphics- Liz LaValle
Reporter - Paul Garrod & James Windell
IT - Jordan Wilcox

PERIODICAL RATE POSTAGE
PAID AT PAW PAW, MI 49079-0129
Postmaster-Send address changes to: PO Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010

PUBLIC NOTICE

Almena Township
SYNOPSIS • May 21, 2025
Almena Township Board meeting was held May 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.
Attendance: John Wagner, Scott Rueff, Kelly Redmond, Mark Roman, Tim Kloosterman, Sandra Rickli and Joe Leduc.
a. Motion to approve amended agenda
b. Motion to approve meeting minutes of April 16, 2025 as presented
c. Disbursements approved in the amount of $398,308.65
d. Commissioner's report
e. Sheriff's Dept. and Mattawan/Paw Paw Fire Dept. reports
f. Public comment offered
g. Reports by officers presented
h. Motion to approve dust control bid
i. Motion to approve crack seal bid
j. Motion to approve chip seal and fog bid
k. Motion to accept Walden Woods subdivision bid
l. Motion to accept Trestle Creek subdivision bid
m. Motion to approve marihuana establishments and facilities inspection policy
n. Motion to approve Resolution 2025-03 approving Biggby final site plan for a restaurant with drive-through services
o. Motion to approve Supervisor's procedure for removal of condemned buildings and funding
p. Motion to approve Supervisor for expenditures up to $15,000 to cover the cost of demolition of two condemned properties
q. Motion to approve Resolution 2025-01 authorizing Supervisor to sign on behalf of Almena Township
r. Public comment offered.
s. Meeting adjourned 7:52pm
Sandra Rickli, Clerk, Almena Township

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
Notice to creditors Decedent's Estate
Case no. 25-1090-DE • Judge Metzger
ESTATE OF JOHN C. HUNT
DATE OF BIRTH: NOVEMBER 01-1944
TO ALL CREDITORS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **John C. Hunt, died December 1, 2024.**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will beforever barred unless presented to **Jeff Hunt,** personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 Paw Paw Street, Paw Paw** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
June 24,2025
Attorney:
Albert W. Laaksonen, II P43920
226 1/2 East Michigan Ave.
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-655-1035
Personal Representative:
Jeff Hunt
300 W. Michigan Ave.
Paw Paw, MI 49079
313-598-1517

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
Notice to creditors Decedent's Estate
Case no. 25-1071-DE
ESTATE OF Anne Frances Arthur
DATE OF BIRTH: August 9, 1958
TO ALL CREDITORS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **Anne Frances Arthur, died March 20, 2025.**
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will beforever barred unless presented to **Jennifer Dombrowski**, personal representative, or to both the probate court at **212 E. Paw Paw Street, #220, Paw Paw, MI 49079** and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
June 25,2025
Attorney:
Elizabeth Robinson #P84345
4341 S. Westnedge Avenue, Ste 1200
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-344-0700
Personal Representative:
Jennifer Dombrowski
426 Frank Rector Road
Marshall, NC 28753
828-777-5257

State of Michigan
Probate Court Van Buren County
Notice to creditors Decedent's Estate
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust Estate
Decedent: JOYCE L. MARR Date of Birth: March 22, 1935
TO ALL CREDITORS: *
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, **JOYCE L. MARR** , who lived at 677 Hazen Street Paw Paw , Michigan 49079 died May 7, 2025. There is no probate estate.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against **JOYCE L. MARR or THE MARR FAMILY TRUST dated March 22, 2022,** will be forever barred unless presented to Marsha Costales, the named successor trustee within 4 months after the date of
publication of this notice.
June 25,2025
Attorney:
Charles S. Ofstein P76256
DeMent and Marquardt, PLC
211 E. Water Street, Suite 401
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 343-2106
Trustee:
Marsha Costales
9841 Woodlawn
Portage, MI 49002
(269) 352-3152

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: KEVIN R. BROWN; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 7/3/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-008018; INSURER: GNMA
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on JULY 31, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kevin R. Brown, a married man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mortgage 1 Incorporated, Mortgagee, dated May 25, 2022 and recorded May 27, 2022 in Liber 1738, Page 661 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Siwell Inc. DBA Capital Mortgage Services of Texas, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Ninety-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty and 64/100 Dollars ($199,780.64).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on JULY 31, 2025.
Said premises are located in the Township of Almena, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as:
Lot 9, FILIPUNAS PLAT, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, Page 100, Van Buren County Records.
47041 County Road 653, Paw Paw, Michigan 49079
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: July 3, 2025
File No. 25-008018
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(07-03)(07-24)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: HEATHER GIBSON; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 6/12/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-005744; INSURER: GNMA
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on JULY 10, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Heather Gibson, a single woman, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, Mortgagee, dated March 30, 2021 and recorded April 2, 2021 in Liber 1716, Page 408 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Fourteen and 20/100 Dollars ($123,014.20).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on JULY 10, 2025.
Said premises are located in the Village of Decatur, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as: The Northerly 75 feet of the Westerly 150 feet of Lot 11, Block 6, Village of Decatur, Van Buren County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 31, Van Buren County Records.
310 N John St, Decatur, Michigan 49045
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: June 12, 2025
File No. 25-005744
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(06-12)(07-03)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, Michigan, starting promptly at one o'clock in the afternoon on 17th day of July, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
The mortgage was made by MITCHELL FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP NO. SIX, a Michigan limited partnership, MITCHELL FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP NO. FIVE, a Michigan limited partnership, DECATUR PROPERTIES, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, GROW BLUE, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, K FARM HOLDINGS, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, THOMAS R. MITCHELL, as TRUSTEE of the THOMAS R. MITCHELL TRUST u/t/a dated August 21, 2000 and K HOG HOLDINGS, LLC a Michigan limited liability company (collectively, "Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated July 2, 2019, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Van Buren County, Michigan on July 12, 2019, in Liber 1686, Page 525 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.
As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of Thirteen Million Thirty-One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Eight and 68/1000 Dollars ($13,031,878.68). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.
The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Townships of Bangor and Covert, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:
PARCEL 10: That part of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 36, Town 2 South, Range 17 West, described as: Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Section 36; thence South 88 degrees 47 minutes 59 seconds East, on the North Section line, 1315.06 feet to the East line of the West Half of the Northwest Quarter; thence South 01 degree 11 minutes 32 seconds West, on same, 2626.49 feet to the East and West Quarter line; thence North 88 degrees 30 minutes 45 seconds West, on same, 657.53 feet to the East line of the West Half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence North 01 degree 11 minutes 32 seconds East, on same, 1311.60 feet to the North line of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence North 88 degrees 39 minutes 22 seconds West, on same, 657.53 feet to the West Section line; thence North 01 degree 11 minutes 41 seconds East, on same, 706.19 feet; thence South 80 degrees 37 minutes 39 seconds East 626.21 feet; thence North 09 degrees 53 minutes 01 second East 146.01 feet; thence North 31 degrees 40 minutes 00 seconds West 298.06 feet; thence North 80 degrees 37 minutes 39 seconds West 485.11 feet to the West Section line; thence North 01 degree 11 minutes 41 seconds East, on same, 229.12 feet to the place of beginning. Tax Item No. 80-07-036-001-11
PARCEL 27: The West Half of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 36, Town 2 South, Range 17 West, according to the Government Survey thereof. Tax Item No. 80-07-036-002-00
PARCEL 29: Beginning at the South Quarter post of Section 20, Town 2 South, Range 16 West, according to the Government Survey thereof; thence North, along the Quarter line, 443.2 feet; thence South 87 degrees 14 minutes West 632.9 feet to a line which is 24 feet East of and parallel to the West line of the East Half of the East Half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section; thence South 0 degrees 06 minutes East, along the last described line, 414.98 feet to the South line of said Section; thence North 89 degrees 47 minutes 20 seconds East, along the South line of said Section, 631.4 feet to the point of beginning. Tax Item No. 80-04-020-013-00
Mortgagor hereby further grants to Mortgagee, a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: all grain handling facilities and equipment, scales, crop dryers, grain storage facilities, elevators, augers, conveyors, power units, fuel storage, electrical controls and testing equipment with replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired, located on and affixed to the above described real estate. This security interest is being given pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code to secure the above described items. In case of default, the Mortgagee (Secured Party) shall have all remedies as provided under said code and under the other terms and conditions of this mortgage, and may proceed upon any security liened to it, either concurrently or separately, in any manner it may elect.
Mortgagor hereby further grants to Mortgagee a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: all feed storage and handling systems, feeders, waterers, water handling systems and medication injection systems, manure handling and storing systems, farrowing equipment, pens, swine nursery equipment, ventilating, lighting and heating systems, auxiliary power system, electrical control systems with replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired, located and affixed to the above described real estate. This security interest is being given pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code to secure the above described items. In case of default, the Mortgagee (Secured Party) shall have all remedies as provided under said code and under the other terms and conditions of this mortgage, and may proceed upon any security liened to it, either concurrently or separately, in any manner it may elect.
Mortgagor hereby further grants to Mortgagee a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: all irrigation equipment, including but not limited to, pumps, gear heads, power units, water distribution and sprinkler systems, fertilizer and chemical injection systems, electrical systems and controls with replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired, located on and affixed to the above described real estate. This security interest is being given pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code to secure the above described items. In case of default, the Mortgagee (Secured Party) shall have all remedies as provided under said code and under the other terms and conditions of this mortgage, and may proceed upon any security liened to it, either concurrently or separately, in any manner it may elect.
Mortgagor hereby further grant to Mortgagee a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: "Fixture language" located on and affixed to the above described real estate. Feed mill together with all grinding equipment, tanks, containers, storage systems, mixing equipment, augers, conveyors, belts, pipes, material transfer systems, and related fixtures and/or equipment together with all parts, tools, attachments, supplies, accessories, and similar equipment required to utilize systems, and replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired. All fruit storage, handling, and processing systems, facilities, and equipment, including, but not limited to: cooling equipment, scrubbers, compressors, condensers, nitrogen generators, computers and computer monitoring equipment, packing line and packing related equipment and fixtures, together with all parts, tools, attachments, supplies, accessories, and similar equipment required to utilize systems and replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired.
Together with (a) all the estate, title, interest, and rights of Borrower in the premises and all buildings and improvements of every kind and description now or later placed on the premises; (b) all of the rents, profits, and leases of the premises and the tenements, hereditaments, easements, privileges, and appurtenance with respect to the premises; (c) all goods (including furniture, fixtures, equipment and appliances) and general intangibles now owned or later acquired by Borrower and now or later related to, affixed to, attached to, placed on, or used in any way in connection with the ownership, use, occupancy, or operation of the premises; (d) all of Borrower's rights, title and interest in, to and under all present and future land contracts, sales agreements or option agreements relating to the premises; (e) and all rights to make divisions of the premises that are exempt from the platting requirements of the Michigan Land Division Act, as it is amended.
Commonly known as: 67138 40th Ave., Bangor, MI 49013
P.P. 80-707-036-001-11 (Parcel 10); 80-70-036-002-00 (Parcel 27); 80-04-020-013-00 (Parcel 29)
Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be one (1) year from the date of sale. If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Dated: June 11, 2025
GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA
Mortgagee
Elisabeth M. Von Eitzen
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000
31802495
(6-13)(7-4)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
This firm is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, Michigan, starting promptly at one o'clock in the afternoon on 17th day of July, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
The mortgage was made by MITCHELL FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP NO. SIX, a Michigan limited partnership, MITCHELL FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP NO. FIVE, a Michigan limited partnership, DECATUR PROPERTIES, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, GROW BLUE, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, K FARM HOLDINGS, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company, THOMAS R. MITCHELL, as TRUSTEE of the THOMAS R. MITCHELL TRUST u/t/a dated August 21, 2000 and K HOG HOLDINGS, LLC a Michigan limited liability company (collectively, "Mortgagor"), to GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA, a federally chartered corporation, having an office at 3515 West Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 (the "Mortgagee"), dated July 2, 2019, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Van Buren County, Michigan on July 12, 2019, in Liber 1686, Page 525 (the "Mortgage"). By reason of a default under the conditions of the Mortgage, the Mortgagee elects to declare and hereby declares the entire unpaid amount of the Mortgage due and payable forthwith. Mortgagee is the owner of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage.
As of the date of this Notice there is claimed to be due for principal and interest on the Mortgage the sum of Thirteen Million Thirty One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Eight and 68/1000 Dollars ($13,031,878.68). No suit or proceeding at law has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage or any part thereof.
The premises covered by the Mortgage are situated in the Village of Decatur, County of Van Buren, State of Michigan, and are described as follows:
PARCEL 19: Lot 8, Block N of Decatur, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31 of Van Buren County Records. Tax Item No. 80-43-040-456-00
PARCEL 20: Lot 9, Block N of Decatur, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31 of Van Buren County Records. Tax Item No. 80-43-040-457-00
PARCEL 21: Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block G of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31 of Van Buren County Records and formerly described as the following parcels: Parcel A: Commencing at the Northeasterly corner of Block G of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records; thence Southerly, along the Easterly line of said Block File Number: 840865 G, 85.92 feet to a point 87 feet Northerly from the Southeasterly corner of said Block; thence Westerly, parallel with the Southerly line of said Block G, 99 feet; thence Northerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, 85.92 feet to the Southerly line of Sherwood Street; thence Easterly, on same, to beginning. Parcel B: Commencing at the Northwest corner of Lot 2, Block G of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records; thence Southerly, along the Westerly line of said lot, 98.92 feet; thence Easterly, parallel with the Southerly line of said Block G, 30 feet; thence Northerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, 13 feet; thence Easterly, parallel with the Southerly line of said Block G, 3 feet; thence Northerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, to the Northerly line of said Block G; thence Westerly, on the Northerly line of said Block G, to the place of beginning. Parcel C: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Lot 1, Block G of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records; thence Westerly, on the Southerly line of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 and being the Northerly line of railroad land, 239 feet; thence Northerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, 60 feet; thence Easterly, parallel with the Southerly line of said Block G, 71 feet; thence Northerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, 14 feet; thence Easterly, parallel with the Southerly line of said Block G, 66 feet; thence Northerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, 13 feet; thence Easterly, parallel with the Southerly line of said Block G, 102 feet to the Easterly line of Block G; thence Southerly on same 87 feet to the beginning. ALSO Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Lot 1, Block G, said plat; thence Northerly, on the Easterly line of same, 87 feet; thence Easterly, at right angles, 2.7 feet; thence Southerly, parallel with the Easterly line of said Block G, 87 feet; thence Westerly 2.7 feet to beginning. Parcel D: The Northerly 6 rods of Lot 3, Block G of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records. Parcel E: The Northerly 7 rods of Lot 4, Block G of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records. Except Commencing at the Southeasterly corner of the Northerly 7 rods of said Lot 4; thence Northerly 1.10 feet; thence Westerly 41 feet; thence Southerly 1.10 feet; thence Easterly 41 feet to beginning. Parcel F: The Northwesterly 14 feet of the Southeasterly 74 feet of the Southwesterly 30 feet of Lot 3, Block G of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records. Parcel G: The Southwesterly 25 feet of the Southeasterly 60 feet of Lot 4, Block G, of the Village of Decatur, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31, Van Buren County Records. Tax Item No. 80-43-040-375-00
PARCEL 22: Part of the Railroad grounds of the recorded plat of Decatur, Section 20, Town 4 South, Range 14 West, Village of Decatur, Van Buren County, Michigan, described as: Beginning at a point on the Southerly right of way line of Sherwood Street, which is South 56 degrees West 590.00 feet from the intersection of the Southerly right of way line of Sherwood Street and the Westerly right of way line of George Street; thence South 34 degrees East 179.00 feet, parallel to the Westerly right of way line of George Street, to the Northerly right of way line of the railroad; thence Southwesterly, along said Northerly right of way line, being along a 740.69 foot radius curve to the left 73.67, said curve having a long chord bearing and distance of South 43 degrees 38 minutes 45 seconds West 73.64 feet; thence along said railroad right of way and a 713.05 foot radius curve to the right 189.27, said curve having a long chord bearing and distance of South 48 degrees 23 minutes 45 seconds West 188.71 feet; thence South 56 degrees West 108.00 feet along the Northerly right of way line of said railroad; thence North 34 degrees West 69.72 along the Easterly right of way line of Park Street; thence North 56 degrees East 315.00 feet parallel with the Southerly right of way of Sherwood Street; thence North 34 degrees West 150.00 feet parallel with the Easterly right of way line of Park Street; thence North 56 degrees East 52.0 feet, along the Southerly right of way line of Sherwood Street, to the point of beginning. Tax Item No. 80-43-085-065-20
PARCEL 23: Beginning at a point in the Southerly line of Sherwood Street which is South 56 degrees West a distance of 150.0 feet from the intersection of the Southerly line of Sherwood Street and the Westerly line of George Street; thence South 34 File Number: 840865 degrees East, parallel with the Westerly line of George Street, a distance of 126.0 feet to a point; thence North 56 degrees East, parallel with the Southerly line of Sherwood Street, a distance of 150.0 feet to a point in the Westerly line of George Street; thence South 34 degrees East, along said line of George Street, a distance of 36.38 feet to a point distant 15 feet in a Northwesterly direction from the centerline of a track of railroad formerly of The Michigan Central Railroad Company; thence parallel with said centerline of track the following four courses and distances: South 55 degrees 13 minutes 15 seconds West a distance of 477.76 feet to a point, Southwesterly on a curve to the left having a radius of 740.59 feet the chord of which bears South 48 degrees 00 minutes 22 seconds West for a length of 186.04 feet, the arc distance of 186.53 feet to a point of reverse curve, Southwesterly on a curve to the right, having a radius of 713.05 feet the chord of which bears South 48 degrees 23 minutes 45 seconds West for a length of 188.71 feet, the arc distance of 189.27 feet to a point and South 56 degrees West a distance of 108.0 feet to a point in the Easterly line of Park Street; thence North 34 degrees West, along the Easterly line of Park Street, a distance of 69.72 feet to a point; thence North 56 degrees East, parallel with the Southerly line of Sherwood Street, a distance of 315.0 feet to a point; thence North 34 degrees West, parallel with the Easterly line of Park Street, a distance of 150.0 feet to a point in the Southerly line of Sherwood Street; thence North 56 degrees East, along the Southerly line of Sherwood Street, a distance of 492.0 feet to the place of beginning. EXCEPT part of the Railroad grounds of the recorded plat of Decatur, Section 20, Town 4 South, Range 14 West, Village of Decatur, Van Buren County, Michigan, described as: Beginning at a point on the Southerly right of way line of Sherwood Street which is South 56 degrees West 590.00 feet from the intersection of the Southerly right of way line of Sherwood Street and the Westerly right of way line of George Street; thence South 34 degrees East 179.00 feet, parallel to the Westerly right of way line of George Street, to the Northerly right of way line of the Railroad; thence Southwesterly, along said Northerly right of way line, being along a 740.69 foot radius curve to the left 73.67 feet, said curve having a long chord bearing and distance of South 43 degrees 38 minutes 45 seconds West 73.64 feet; thence along said Railroad right of way and a 713.05 foot radius curve to the right 189.27 feet, said curve having a long chord bearing and distance of South 48 degrees 23 minutes 45 seconds West 188.71 feet; thence South 56 degrees West 108.0 feet along the Northerly right of way line of said Railroad; thence North 34 degrees West 69.72 feet along the Easterly right of way line of Park Street; thence North 56 degrees East 315.0 feet parallel with the Southerly right of way of Sherwood Street; thence North 34 degrees West 150.0 feet parallel with the Easterly right of way line of Park Street; thence North 56 degrees East 52.0 feet, along the Southerly right of way line of Sherwood Street, to the point of beginning. Tax Item No. 80-43-085-065-10

Continues on page 8

PUBLIC NOTICE

Continues from page 7

PARCEL 24: Beginning at the intersection of the Southerly line of Sherwood Street with the Westerly line of George Street, in the Village of Decatur, Van Buren County, Michigan according to the 1905 recorded Plat thereof; thence Westerly, along the Southerly line of said Sherwood Street, 150 feet; thence Southerly, parallel to the Westerly line of said George Street, 126 feet; thence Easterly, parallel to the Southerly line of said Sherwood Street, 150 feet to the Westerly line of said George Street; thence Northerly, along the Westerly line of said George Street, 126 feet to the place of beginning, being a part of the West half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 20, Town 4 South, Range 14 West, according to the Government Survey thereof. Tax Item No. 80-43-085-034-00
PARCEL 25: Lots 6, 5 and part of Lot 4, all Block O of Decatur, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31 of Van Buren County Records, described as: Commencing at the Northeasterly corner of Lot 1 of said Block O; thence South 56 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, along the Northwesterly lines of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 of said Block O, a distance of 406.00 feet to the point of beginning of the land herein described; thence South 33 degrees 54 minutes 00 seconds East, along a line which is 5 feet Northeasterly of and parallel with the Northeasterly wall of an existing metal building, 145.41 feet; thence North 56 degrees 07 minutes 24 seconds East, along a line which is 5 feet Northwesterly of and parallel with the Northwesterly wall of an existing concrete block building, 50.08 feet; thence South 33 degrees 48 minutes 00 seconds East, along a line which is 5 feet Northeasterly of and parallel with the Northeasterly wall of an existing concrete block building, 28.23 feet to the South line of Lot 4 of said Block O; thence measured South 55 degrees 52 minutes 14 seconds West (record=South 55 degrees 54 minutes 25 seconds West) (plat=South 56 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West) along the Southeasterly lines of Lots 4, 5 and 6 of said Block O, a measured distance of 375.65 feet (record=375.20 feet) (plat=368.60 feet) to the Southwesterly corner of Lot 6 of said Block O; thence measured North 34 degrees 27 minutes 35 seconds West (record=North 34 degrees 19 minutes 25 seconds West) (plat=North 34 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West) along the Southwesterly line of Lot 6 of said Block O, a measured distance of File Number: 840865 174.65 feet (record=172.10 feet) (plat=172.92 feet) to the Northwesterly corner of Lot 6 of said Block O; thence North 56 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, along the Northerly lines of Lots 6, 5 and 4 of said Block O, a measured distance of 327.32 feet (record=326.60 feet) (plat=320.00 feet) to the place of beginning. Tax Item No. 80-43-040-470-01
PARCEL 26: Lots 1, 2, 3 and part of Lot 4, all Block O of Decatur, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, page 31 of Van Buren County Records, described as: Beginning at the Northeasterly corner of Lot 1 of said Block O; thence South 56 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, along the Northwesterly lines of Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 of said Block O, a distance of 406.00 feet; thence South 33 degrees 54 minutes 00 seconds East, along a line which is 5 feet Northeasterly of and parallel with the Northeasterly wall of an existing metal building, 145.41 feet; thence North 56 degrees 07 minutes 24 seconds East, along a line with is 5 feet Northwesterly of and parallel with the Northwesterly wall of an existing concrete block building, 50.08 feet; thence South 33 degrees 48 minutes 00 seconds East, along a line which is 5 feet Northeasterly of and parallel with the Northeasterly wall of an existing concrete block building, 28.23 feet to the South line of Lot 4, said Block O; thence measure North 55 degrees 52 minutes 44 seconds East (record=North 55 degrees 54 minutes 25 seconds East) (plat=North 56 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East) along the Southeasterly lines of Lots 4, 3, 2 and 1, said Block O, a distance of 357.40 feet to the Southeasterly corner of Lot 1, said Block O; thence measured North 34 degrees 22 minutes 25 seconds West (plat=North 34 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West) along the Northeasterly line of Lot 1, said Block O, a measured distance of 173.00 feet (plat=172.92 feet) to the place of beginning. Tax Item No. 80-43-040-469-01
Mortgagor hereby further grants to Mortgagee, a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: all grain handling facilities and equipment, scales, crop dryers, grain storage facilities, elevators, augers, conveyors, power units, fuel storage, electrical controls and testing equipment with replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired, located on and affixed to the above described real estate. This security interest is being given pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code to secure the above described items. In case of default, the Mortgagee (Secured Party) shall have all remedies as provided under said code and under the other terms and conditions of this mortgage, and may proceed upon any security liened to it, either concurrently or separately, in any manner it may elect.
Mortgagor hereby further grants to Mortgagee a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: all feed storage and handling systems, feeders, waterers, water handling systems and medication injection systems, manure handling and storing systems, farrowing equipment, pens, swine nursery equipment, ventilating, lighting and heating systems, auxiliary power system, electrical control systems with replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired, located and affixed to the above described real estate. This security interest is being given pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code to secure the above described items. In case of default, the Mortgagee (Secured Party) shall have all remedies as provided under said code and under the other terms and conditions of this mortgage, and may proceed upon any security liened to it, either concurrently or separately, in any manner it may elect.
Mortgagor hereby further grants to Mortgagee a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: all irrigation equipment, including but not limited to, pumps, gear heads, power units, water distribution and sprinkler systems, fertilizer and chemical injection systems, electrical systems and controls with replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired, located on and affixed to the above described real estate. This security interest is being given pursuant to the Michigan Uniform Commercial Code to secure the above described items. In case of default, the Mortgagee (Secured Party) shall have all remedies as provided under said code and under the other terms and conditions of this mortgage, and may proceed upon any security liened to it, either concurrently or separately, in any manner it may elect.
Mortgagor hereby further grant to Mortgagee a security interest, as security for the payment of all indebtedness of the Mortgagor to Mortgagee in certain property generally described as: "Fixture language" located on and affixed to the above described real estate. Feed mill together with all grinding equipment, tanks, containers, storage systems, mixing equipment, augers, conveyors, belts, pipes, material transfer systems, and related fixtures and/or equipment together with all parts, tools, attachments, supplies, accessories, and similar equipment required to utilize systems, and replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired. All fruit storage, handling, and processing systems, facilities, and equipment, including, but not limited to: cooling equipment, scrubbers, compressors, condensers, nitrogen generators, computers and computer monitoring equipment, packing line and packing related equipment and fixtures, together with all parts, tools, attachments, supplies, accessories, and similar equipment required to utilize systems and replacements, additions and similar equipment hereafter acquired.
Together with (a) all the estate, title, interest, and rights of Borrower in the premises and all buildings and improvements of every kind and description now or later placed on the premises; (b) all of the rents, profits, and leases of the premises and the tenements, hereditaments, easements, privileges, and appurtenance with respect to the premises; (c) all goods (including furniture, fixtures, equipment and appliances) and general intangibles now owned or later acquired by Borrower and now or later related to, affixed to, attached to, placed on, or used in any way in connection with the ownership, use, occupancy, or operation of the premises; (d) all of Borrower's rights, title and interest in, to and under all present and future land contracts, sales agreements or option agreements relating to the premises; (e) and all rights to make divisions of the premises that are exempt from the platting requirements of the Michigan Land Division Act, as it is amended.
Commonly known as: 110 East Sherwood Street, Decatur, MI 49045
P.P. 80-43-040-456-00 (Parcel 19); 80-43-040-457-00 (Parcel 20); 80-43-040-375-00 (Parcel 21); 80-43-085-065-20 (parcel 22); 80-43-085-065-10 (Parcel 23); 80-43-085-034-00 (parcel 24); 80-43-040-470-01 (Parcel 25); 80-43-040-469-01 (Parcel 26)
Notice is further given that the length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of sale.
If the premises are sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA §600.3278 the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the premises at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the Mortgagee for damaging the premises during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Dated: June 11, 2025

GREENSTONE FARM CREDIT SERVICES, FLCA
Mortgagee
Elisabeth M. Von Eitzen
WARNER NORCROSS + JUDD LLP
150 Ottawa Avenue NW Suite 1500
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2487
(616) 752-2000 32615012

(6-13)(7-4)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: RAYMOND E BIRMELE; ATTY: RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. - RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.; 1ST PUB: 6/12/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25MI00397-1; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM, July 10, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Raymond E. Birmele and Diann M. Birmele, Husband and Wife to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Mortgagee, as Nominee for Interactive Financial Corp, its successors, and assigns, Mortgagee, dated February 13, 2009, and recorded on February 24, 2009, in Liber 1513, Page 735, Van Buren County Records, said mortgage was modified by Loan Modification Agreement dated January 13, 2022, and recorded on January 21, 2022, in Liber 1732, Page 133, Van Buren County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated January 11, 2016 and recorded January 14, 2016 in Liber 1630, Page 235, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Seven and 27/100 ($175,297.27) including interest at the rate of 3.12500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the City of Hartford, Van Buren County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing on the East line of Haver Street, at a point 679.00 feet North of the East and West quarter line of Section 15, Town 3 South, Range 16 West, thence North on said Street, 117.50 feet to the South line of Hart Street, thence East on said street 148.50 feet, thence South 117.50 feet, thence West 148.50 feet to beginning Commonly known as: 100 HART ST, HARTFORD, MI 49057 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: June 12, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00397-1

(06-12)(07-03)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: ROBERTA POTHOFF; ATTY: TEAM H; 1ST PUB: 6/12/2025; ATTY FILE #: 520934F01; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on July 10, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Wayne R. Pothoff and Roberta J. Pothoff, husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC
Date of Mortgage: July 1, 2022
Date of Mortgage Recording: July 15, 2022
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $354,601.00
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Village of Mattawan, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: Unit 142, Silvergrass, a site condominium, according to the master deed recorded in Liber 1611, Page 233, Van Buren county record, and designated as Van Buren county subdivision plan no. 132, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in the above described master deed and amendments thereto and as disclosed by act 59 of the public acts of 1978, as amended.
Common street address (if any): 25441 Forest Ln, Mattawan, MI 49071-9671
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: June 12, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1563855

(06-12)(07-03)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: JAMES WILKINS; ATTY: SCHNEIDERMAN & SHERMAN, P.C. - SCHNEIDERMAN & SHERMAN, PC; 1ST PUB: 6/12/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-001625-1; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - VAN BUREN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM, on July 10, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): James Wilkins, a single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: October 17, 2012 Recorded on October 18, 2012, Liber 1574, on Page 330, and re-recorded via Loan Modification recorded on April 21, 2022 in Liber 1737, on Page 97 Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred One Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Eight and 01/100 Dollars ($101,128.01) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Van Buren County, and described as: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 6 OF GAGE`S ADDITION, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF; THENCE WEST 132 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 229.02 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF BREEDSVILLE ROAD; THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG SAID NORTH LINE TO THE WEST LINE OF GAGE`S ADDITION; THENCE NORTH TO BEGINNING, THIS PARCEL IS ALSO DESCRIBED AS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 6, BLOCK 1, GAGE`S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, SAID POINT BEING DETERMINED BY A SURVEY MADE BY SMITH &, SMITH, INC., REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS IN LAND SURVEYING AS BEING 1110.12 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTH LINE OF SECTION 9, TOWN 3 SOUTH, RANGE 15 WEST; THENCE WEST 8 RODS; THENCE SOUTH TO THE CENTER OF BREEDSVILLE ROAD; THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ON SAME TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID ADDITION; THENCE NORTH ON SAME TO BEGINNING, BEING A PART OF THE NORTHEAST FRACTIONAL QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 9, TOWN 3 SOUTH, RANGE 15 WEST ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT SURVEY THEREOF. Commonly known as 128 Bangor Rd, Lawrence, MI 49064 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1564121

(06-12)(07-03)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: 7338 HARDISTY LLC; ATTY: ANR - ANR; 1ST PUB: 6/19/2025; ATTY FILE #: (N/A); INSURER: (UNKNOWN
Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on July 24, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): 7338 Hardisty LLC Original Mortgagee: Builder Circle Warehouse 1 LLC Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Date of Mortgage: July 3, 2024 Date of Mortgage Recording: July 10, 2024 Amount claimed due on date of notice: $468,107.20 Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Decatur, County of Van Buren, and State of Michigan, is described as follows: THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 33, TOWN 4 SOUTH, RANGE 14 WEST. Common street address (if any): 94760 40th Street, Decatur, MI 49045 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16). If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector. Date of notice: June 19, 2025 Mastrantonio & Orlando, LLP 308 N. Cleveland Massillon Road, Suite 200 Akron, OH 44333 330-434-1000

(06-19)(07-10)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: BRYAN BAILEY; ATTY: RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C. - RANDALL S. MILLER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.; 1ST PUB: 6/19/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25MI00402-1; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
FORECLOSURE NOTICE ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 01:00 PM, July 17, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Bryan Bailey, A Married Man to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Mortgagee, as Nominee for Amerifirst Financial Corporation, its successors, and assigns, Mortgagee, dated March 30, 2020, and recorded on April 3, 2020, in Liber 1697, Page 565, Van Buren County Records, said mortgage was assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by an Assignment of Mortgage dated June 02, 2025 and recorded June 06, 2025 in Liber 1779, Page 748, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Ten Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Six and 24/100 ($110,766.24) including interest at the rate of 4.25000% per annum. Said premises are situated in the City of Hartford, Van Buren County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot(s) 17, except the East 5 feet wide of said Lot 17, Block 1 of Warrens Addition to Hartford according to the Plat thereof recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 7 of Van Buren County Records. Commonly known as: 315 E LINDEN ST, HARTFORD, MI 49057 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: June 19, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 25MI00402-1

(06-19)(07-10)

NEW PUB -> COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: RYAN STEELE; ATTY: TEAM X; 1ST PUB: 6/19/2025; ATTY FILE #: 524417F01; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL

Continues on page 9

CLASSIFIEDS

• WANTED •

CLARK'S AUTO PARTS, INC. is buying cars, trucks & all metals for recycling. Lawrence, 674-4905 or 1-800-707-8650.

STANDING TIMBER.
Top Michigan lumber manufacturer seeking landowners with 25 or more mature hardwood trees to sell. Qualityhardwoodsinc.com • 517-566-8061.

• SERVICES •

GRANT DALY PAINTING:
Interior/exterior residential, commercial, industrial. Great references & free estimates. Call 657-7893.

HAULING, CLEANING RECYCLING.
Moving service. Right Quick Hauling. Dan Wydick, Dustin Wydick, Daniel Wydick, 423-8545. Serving since 1994.

FIELD PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.
Services all brands of heating & cooling equipment in your home or business. 24/7 service for over 50 years, 269-674-3839.

BUYING JUNK CARS, trucks, scrap metal and farm machinery. Kalamazoo Metal Recyclers, 1525 King Highway, Kalamazoo. 269-381-1315.

BUDGET APPLIANCE SERVICE, 269-685-8902. Call us today for your appliance repair or service needs! Quality service at affordable prices.

MEDICARE GURU
Call
Janet Bontrager
Insurance Advisor
(269) 998-6977

PRO HANDYMAN SERVICE
SOUTH HAVEN AREA Call 269-903-6397.

• FOR SALE •

ANTIQUE ENGLISH PUB SIGN TWO-SIDED with words, "Tom and Bedlam" on it; 1960s Maple table and chairs; also 48 inch round table with two leafs; modern desk chairs; sturdy metal shelves, 30 inches high and 42 inches high; old postcards and more. Wittes, 269-668-3574.

• AUCTION •

STORAGE AUCTION
PUBLIC AUCTION on 7/12/2025 at 9:00 am PRAIRIE VIEW STORAGE located at 51350 CR 652, Mattawan, MI 49017, pursuant to 570.521-570.527, will hold a public sale of personal property belonging to the following tenants to the highest bidder. Contents include household goods, tools, and misc.
1. Meghan Overacker 108 & 213
2. Sheryl Sullivan • 3. Samantha Kelley
4. Landon Gaylor • 5. Clayton Sharples
6. Marcy Matthews • 7. Mike Tarolli
8. Christina Hayward • 9. Desiray Labarge
Cash payment is due at the time of the sale. All sales are subject to prior cancellation. Rules and regulations available at sale.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Continues from page 8

600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on July 24, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Ryan D. Steele aka Ryan Steele and Kimberly Steele husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Date of Mortgage: September 15, 2017
Date of Mortgage Recording: September 22, 2017
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $98,615.11
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Hartford, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: The South 50 feet of Lot(s) 3 and 4, Block 7 of Freeman Stowe's Addition to the Hartford Village according to the plat thereof recorded in Van Buren County Records, also the North half of Lot 1 Block 2, Map of Stowe's 2nd Addition to the Village of Hartford, according to the recorded plat thereof recorded in Van Buren County Records.
Common street address (if any): 308 S Maple St, Hartford, MI 49057-1225
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: June 19, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1564713

(06-19)(07-10)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: MARGARET MINER; ATTY: TEAM X; 1ST PUB: 6/26/2025; ATTY FILE #: 524401F01; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on July 31, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Margaret M. Miner and Wesley E. Miner, wife and husband
Original Mortgagee: Michigan Home Finance
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
Date of Mortgage: February 5, 2007
Date of Mortgage Recording: February 12, 2020
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $94,653.99
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Bloomingdale, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: The West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section, 9, Town 1 South, Range 14 West, according to the Government Survey thereof.
Common street address (if any): 41704 6th Ave, Bloomingdale, MI 49026-9704
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: June 26, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1565012

(06-26)(07-17)

NEW PUB -> COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: CHAD M. HOFFMAN; ATTY: ORLANS; 1ST PUB: 6/26/2025; ATTY FILE #: 25-006790; INSURER: (UNKNOWN)
ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM on AUGUST 14, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.
Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Chad M. Hoffman and Sylvia L. Hoffman, husband and wife, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for GMAC Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee, dated November 3, 2004 and recorded November 12, 2004 in Liber 1425, Page 803 Van Buren County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely in its capacity as trustee of Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2024-RP1, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and 58/100 Dollars ($61,920.58).
Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Van Buren County, Michigan at 1:00 PM on AUGUST 14, 2025.
Said premises are located in the City of Bangor, Van Buren County Michigan, and are described as: LOTS 1 AND 2 BLOCK 8 MONROES ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF BANGOR, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF
35 E Monroe Street, Bangor, Michigan 49013
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.
Dated: June 26, 2025
File No. 25-006790
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(06-26)(07-17)

COUNTY: VAN BUREN; MTGR: JESSE STONE; ATTY: TEAM H; 1ST PUB: 7/3/2025; ATTY FILE #: 524395F01; INSURER: FNMA
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT
Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Van Buren County, starting promptly at 1:00 PM, on July 31, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:
Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Jesse Stone and Stephanie N. Stone FKA Stephanie Fabian, husband and wife
Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns
Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC
Date of Mortgage: November 18, 2020
Date of Mortgage Recording: June 14, 2021
Amount claimed due on date of notice: $153,034.08
Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Pine Grove, Van Buren County, Michigan, and described as: That part of the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Northeast fractional 1/4 of Section 6, Town 1 South, Range 13 West, described as: Beginning at the Southeast corner of said North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Northeast fractional 1/4 of said section; thence North 00 degrees 40 minutes 39 seconds West, on the East section line, 592.93 feet; thence South 89 degrees 34 minutes 34 seconds West, parallel with and 66 feet South of the North line of the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Northeast fractional 1/4, 220.45 feet; thence South 00 degrees 40 minutes 39 seconds East, parallel with the East section line, 592.81 feet to the South line of the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of the Northeast fractional 1/4; thence North 89 degrees 36 minutes 22 seconds East, on same, 220.45 feet to the place of beginning.
Common street address (if any): 01464 M 40, Gobles, MI 49055-9075
The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).
If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.
This notice is from a debt collector.
Date of notice: July 3, 2025
Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1565480

(07-03)(07-24)

ANTWERP TOWNSHIP
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

STREET LIGHTING SYSTEM SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANTWERP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND OWNERS OF ALL LOTS in the ROSE CREEK ESTATES SUBDIVISION:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by initiative of the Township Board, the Township Board proposes to install, operate and maintain a street lighting system for the Rose Creek Estates Subdivision and to create a special assessment district to defray the costs by special assessment against the properties to be specially benefited.

The special assessment district, within which the street lighting improvements are proposed to be made and within which the expenses thereof are proposed to be assessed consist of the following:

- Lots 1-39 in the Rose Creek Estates Subdivision located in Section 10 of Antwerp Township.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has received plans showing the improvements and locations thereof and an estimate of the costs and expenses, in the approximate amount of $1,590.40 (approx. $40.779 per lot); has placed the same on file with the Township Clerk; and has previously passed Resolution 2025-0408(A) tentatively declaring its intention to make the improvement and to create the special assessment district described herein. The plans and estimates of costs for the special assessment district are on file with the Township Clerk and are available for inspection from the date of this notice until the date of the public hearing and may be examined at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the public hearing on the question of creating the special assessment district and defraying the costs and expenses of the district by special assessment on the benefited property, will be held on **TUESDAY, July 8, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.**, at a meeting of the Antwerp Township Board at the Township Hall located at 24821 Front Avenue, Mattawan, MI 49071, in Antwerp Township, St. Joseph County, Michigan.

The Township Board proposes to annually specially assess the benefited properties described herein for the costs of the street lighting and related maintenance and operational costs in the Rose Creek Estates Subdivision. If the amount to be specially assessed increases by more than 10 percent in any one year, the Township will provide mailed notice to all property owners in the district in accordance with PA 188 of 1954,

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT APPEARANCE AND PROTEST AT THIS HEARING IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE AMOUNT OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL. AN OWNER OR PARTY IN INTEREST OR HIS OR HER AGENT MAY APPEAR IN PERSON AT THIS HEARING TO PROTEST THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, OR MAY FILE AN APPEARANCE OR PROTEST BY LETTER WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THE HEARING OR WITHIN SUCH FURTHER TIME AS THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MAY GRANT, IF ANY, AND IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES A PERSONAL APPEARANCE AT THE HEARING SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED. (THE OWNER OR ANY PERSON HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPRTY WHO PROTESTS IN PERON OR IN WRITING AS PROVIDED ABOVE MAY FILE A WRITTEN APPEAL OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT WITH THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL/SPREAD.)

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the foregoing hearing and all proceedings associated with this special assessment matter shall be conducted in accordance with and pursuant to 1954 Public Act 188 and in accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act and any other applicable law.

Antwerp Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting/hearing to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon reasonable notice to the Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk.

Chantel Reyna, Clerk
ANTWERP TOWNSHIP
24821 Front Avenue, Mattawan, MI 49071
(269) 668-2615
antwerptownshipmi.gov
creyna@antwerptownshipmi.gov

ANTWERP TOWNSHIP
VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Ackley Lake Eradication Renewal of Special Assessment District

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ANTWERP, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND OWNERS OF ALL 13 properties along the Ackley Lake:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that by initiative of the Township Board, the Township Board proposes to Ackley Lake Eradication for the Ackley Lake residents within Antwerp Township containing 13 property owners to renew special assessment district to defray the costs by special assessment against the properties to be specially benefited.

The special assessment district, along Ackley Lake, in Section 6 within Antwerp Township which benefits the 13 lots owners along Ackley Lake are proposed to be made and within which the expenses thereof are proposed to be assessed consist of the following:

- 13 property owners along Ackley Lake located in Section 6 of Antwerp Township.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board has received plans showing the treatment cost for 6 years 2025 thru 2030 thereof and an estimate of the costs and expenses, in the approximate amount of $196.86 cost of service plus publication fee; has placed the same on file with the Township Clerk; and was create the special assessment district described herein. The plans and estimates of costs for the special assessment district are on file with the Township Clerk and are available for inspection from the date of this notice until the date of the public hearing and may be examined at the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the public hearing on the question of renewing the special assessment district and defraying the costs and expenses of the district by special assessment on the benefited property, will be held on **TUESDAY, July 8, 2025, AT 6:30 P.M.,** at a meeting of the Antwerp Township Board at the Township Hall located at 24821 Front Avenue, Mattawan, MI 49071, in Antwerp Township, Van Buren County, Michigan.

The Township Board proposes to annually specially assess the benefited properties described herein for the costs of the eradication for Ackley Lake residents within Antwerp Township. If the amount to be specially assessed increases by more than 10 percent in any one year, the Township will provide mailed notice to all property owners in the district in accordance with PA 188 of 1954,

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT APPEARANCE AND PROTEST AT THIS HEARING IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE AMOUNT OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT TO THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL.
AN OWNER OR PARTY IN INTEREST OR HIS OR HER AGENT MAY APPEAR IN PERSON AT THIS HEARING TO PROTEST THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, OR MAY FILE AN APPEARANCE OR PROTEST BY LETTER WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THE HEARING OR WITHIN SUCH FURTHER TIME AS THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MAY GRANT, IF ANY, AND IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES A PERSONAL APPEARANCE AT THE HEARING SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED. (THE OWNER OR ANY PERSON HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPRTY WHO PROTESTS IN PERON OR IN WRITING AS PROVIDED ABOVE MAY FILE A WRITTEN APPEAL OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT WITH THE STATE TAX TRIBUNAL WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL/SPREAD.)

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the foregoing hearing and all proceedings associated with this special assessment matter shall be conducted in accordance with and pursuant to 1954 Public Act 188 and in accordance with and pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act and any other applicable law.

Antwerp Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting/hearing to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon reasonable notice to the Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk.

Chantel Reyna, Clerk
ANTWERP TOWNSHIP
24821 Front Avenue
Mattawan, MI 49071
(269) 668-2615
antwerptownshipmi.gov
creyna@antwerptownshipmi.gov

More than 700 attend Bienvenidos event

The seventh annual Bienvenidos Event was held Saturday, June 28, at the Van Buren fairgrounds, Hartford. The event saw more than 700 people attend, including over 168 families. Those attending received food bags and boxes, information, giveaways presented by different organizations and agencies, clothing and more. Van Buren County Sheriff's Office Reserve Officers on hand for the event, handed out stickers and pens to children.

Courier-Leader photos/Paul Garrod

VILLAGE OF MATTAWAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Village of Mattawan Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing to consider a Variance Request received from **Jonathan Vandenburgh, Java Real Estate LLC.,** for property located at **56400 City Center Circle** requesting a variance from the Village of Mattawan Zoning Ordinance Article 17 Section 17.30 (D) #4 Waste Receptacles.

1170-A18 13-3-13 1506-779 1671-785 1770-536 *** UNIT 18 THE SHOPS AT MCGILLEN'S CROSSING CONDOMINIUM TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS AS DESCRIBED IN THE MASTER DEED RECORDED IN LIBER 1508, PAGE 884 AND ANY AMENDMENTS TO SAME. *** SPLIT ON 21 OCTOBER 2008 FROM 80-46-700-080-00 FOR 2009.

The variance, if granted, would allow for a temporary vinyl dumpster enclosure.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Public Hearing on said request will be held on **July 28, 2025, before the Zoning Board of Appeals at 7:00 p.m.** in the Village meeting room at which time all interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The meeting will be held at the address below. Please send all written comments to:

Village of Mattawan
24221 Front Avenue, Mattawan, MI 49071
(269) 668-2128
offices@mattawanmi.com
Jolie Storm-Artis, Village Clerk

Slime and Scales with Sarett Nature Center at VBDL Lawrence Branch Library

LAWRENCE – "We are bringing nature to the library on Saturday, July 12, with two sessions available at 11 a.m. and noon," said Lawrence Librarian Anne Cox.

A Traveling Naturalist from the Sarett Nature Center will bring live animals including snakes, lizards and turtles for viewing and discussion. This event is open to all ages. Reservations are appreciated but not required.

Hours for the Lawrence Community Branch Library, 212 N. Paw Paw St., Lawrence, are Monday through Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For information about this or any other program, call (269) 674-3200.

Van Buren District Library is headquartered in Decatur with branches in Bangor, Bloomingdale, Covert, Decatur, Gobles, Lawrence and Mattawan.

County Sheriff's Office partners with Bissell for 'Empty the Shelter' event

HARTFORD - Van Buren County Sheriff Daniel Abbott announced this week that the Van Buren County Sheriff's Office will once again participate in the Bissell Pet Foundation's 'Empty the Shelter' event, July 5-19, at Van Buren County Animal Control, 58040 County Road 681, Hartford.

"Area residents interested in adopting a furry friend, are asked to visit the Van Buren County animal shelter and see if any of the available dogs might be a good fit for you," said Sheriff Abbott. The shelter is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.to 5 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

AREA CHURCH SERVICES

PAW PAW

ALMENA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
27503 CR 375
Pastor Len Schoenherr
668-2811 • www.almenaumc.com
SUNDAY
Worship - 11 a.m.
(Childcare Provided)
FRIDAY: AA- 8 p.m.

••••

COVEY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
33566 28th Avenue
(corner of 28th & M-40)
269-628-2139 • www.coveyhill.org
Pastor Daniel Wilson
SUNDAY
Worship @10:45am
Nursery & Children's Church provided
Messages available on YouTube

••••

FAITH OF THE APOSTLES CURCH
34580 M-40 Highway
Elder David Harn
1 (269) 512-4586
SUNDAY
Christian Education - 10 a.m.
Wroship Service - 11:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY • Bible Study - 7 p.m.

••••

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
32464 Red Arrow
Pastor Horace M. "Buddy" Turner... 657-2090
SUNDAY
Worship - 11 a.m.
on Facebook:
www.Facebook.com/buddyturner2 or search:
"Buddy Turner"

••••

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
120 Pine St, Paw Paw
Worship: 11am Sundays
in person or online at -
www.pawpawpres.com or
www.youtube.com/@1stprespawpaw

••••

NEW HOPE FAMILY
201 W. Michigan Avenue
Pastor Mark Roberts
www.newhopefellowship.org
SUNDAY
Morning Worship - 10 a.m.

••••

PAW PAW SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CURCH
60409 South M-40
Pastor Sean Reed
Lawn Services - 10 a.m. & 11 a.m.
www.pawpaw.church
Oline worship services on Facebook & YourTube

••••

PAW PAW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
420 W. Michigan Ave., Paw Paw, MI 49079
269-657-7727
Pastor Dan Phillips
Sunday Service at 9:30 am

••••

RED ARROW MINISTRIES
31133 Red Arrow Highway
Rev. G. Ben Bowater, IV Founding Pastor
SUNDAY Worship - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m.
www.redarrowministries.org for live stream worship

••••

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
412 Cedar Street
Handicap Accessible
657-3762 • www.stmarkpawpaw.com
e-mail: stmarkspawpaw@gmail.com
Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 307, Paw Paw, MI 49079
SUNDAY Worship 9:30 a.m.

••••

ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
500 Paw Paw Street
Rev. Fr. Alan P. Jorgensen
657-4459
SATURDAY Vigil - 4:00 p.m.
SUNDAY MASSES - 9AM & 11AM
Holy days & Daily Masses
Consult Bulletin

••••

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
721 Pine Street
Pastor Phillip Phifer
Church: 657-4840
School: 657-5921
Sunday Services 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

••••

TRUTH CHURCH
32560 56th Ave. • 657-5042
www.truthchurchpawpaw.com
Pastor Steven Green
SUNDAY
School - 10 a.m.
Evening Service - 6 p.m.
THURSDAY Bible Study - 7 p.m.

••••

IGLESIA DEL ESPÍRITU SANTO/ CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
30037 E Red Arrow Hwy., Bilingual
Pastors Maggie and Jay Salas
Domingo/Sunday:
Adoración | Worship- 10 a.m.
Jueves/Thursday: Oracion/ Estudió Bíblico | Prayer/Bible Study- 7 p.m.
(269) 377-6514/ (269) 993-6727

LAWTON

DAILY HARVEST MINISTRIES
117 S.Franklin Street
Pastor Jack Shanley
SUNDAY Worship - 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Bible Study - 6 p.m.

••••

IGLESIA PENTECOSTES
Eel Movimiento misionero Mundial, Inc.
Bilingual
117 S. Franklin Street
Pastors Arturo & Lourdez Hernandez
(616) 656-0137
SERVICES
Domingo - 9:30 a.m.
Martes y Jueves - 7:30 p.m.
Local: (269) 655-8071

••••

LAWTON EVANGELICAL CHURCH
425 S. Nursery Street, Lawton • 624-1524
Call if you need help in some way
www.lawtonevan.com
SUNDAY Worship Services - 10 a.m.
We offer Nursery and Children's Church

••••

NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH
502 N. Main Street, Lawton, MI 49065
Pastor Adam Potgiesser
Sunday Worship 10am
www.nc2online.com • facebook.com/nc2online
(269) 299-2003

••••

ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
624-1050
Pastor Ashlei Horn
SUNDAY Worship - 10:00 a.m.
www.stpoulsumclawton.com or on Facebook
www.Facebook.com/Lawton-St-Pauls-UMC

MARCELLUS

ST. MARGARET MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
296 E. Dibble St.
Rev. John Tran.
668-3312
SUNDAY - 9:45AM

••••

HARMONY CHAPEL
88067 C.R. 652 (In the SW corner of Porter Twp.)
Rev. Ron Packer
269-548-7348
Please join us as we continue to Worship in the Country Since 1894
SUNDAY Service - 12:30 p.m.
For mor information or directions call:
Neal Ferguson: 269-624-6837 or
Ann Nesbitt: 269-624-6781

DECATUR

DECATUR BIBLE CHURCH
80797 M-51, Decatur • (269) 423-5111
Pastor Steven Pace
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study &
Prayer 5:00 p.m.
facebook.com/DecaturBibleChurch • http://www.decaturbible.org

••••

Decatur New Hope Community Church
319 ½ West Delaware Street
Pastor Ross Tarantino
SUNDAY • Worship Service-10:00 a.m.
TUESDAY • Bible Study-1:00 p.m.
269-423-8136
info@decaturnewhopecommunity.net

MATTAWAN

Calvary Community Church
7829 S. 5th St
Pastor Gregory VanHeukelom
375-6240 • www.calvaryreformed.org
Website: https://www.calvary-community.church/
Worship still 10 am Sunday with live Facebook
Jody's Closet, a free clothing ministry is open
Mon/Tue 10am-12 and Thur 6-7:30pm
And the 1st Saturday of the month 8:30-10am.•

•••

FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
56070 Murray Street
Pastor Chuck Rawsthorne
SUNDAY
School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
(In person and on Facebook)

••••

MATTAWAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
23680 Front Ave.
668-3263 • www.mattawancc.com
mattawancommunitychurch@gmail.com
Pastor Eric Baird
SUNDAYS AT 10:25 A.M

••••

ST. JOHN BOSCO CATHOLIC CHURCH
23830 Front Ave.
Rev. John Tran
668-3312 • www.stjohnbosco.com
Sunday Mass times to 8:00 AM & 11:30 AM
(Saturday Mass time remains at 4:00 PM)

LAWRENCE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Corner of Exchange & James Street • 674-8381
Pastor Doug Tipken
SUNDAY Worship - 11 a.m.
lawrencemethodist-church.org
for information of online videos

GOBLES

NORTHPOINT MINISTRIES OF GOBLES
04077 M40 • 269-628-9199
northpointgobles@gmail.com
Pastors: Gary Lounsberry & John Losen Jr.
Sunday: 11am - Morning Worship
Monday: 7 pm - REFRESH Bible Study
Wednesday: 7pm - Prayer Meeting

DIRECTORY OF CHURCH SERVICES IS PROVIDED BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS

THE CLOTHES BASKET
314 Paw Paw Street
Paw Paw • **657-6441**

DE TSMIA
Insurance Agency, INC.
130 N. Main Street
Lawton • **624-4411**

CAMPBELL MURCH
CEMETERY MEMORIALS, INC.
56556 Main Street
Mattawan • **668-3350**

Adams FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES
ADAMS FUNERAL HOME
Serving the Community Since 1948
504 W. Michigan Avenue
Paw Paw • **657-6347**

HIEMSTRA OPTICAL CO.
Michael Houser & staff
133 E. Michigan Avenue
Paw Paw • **657-4511**

St JULIAN winery • distillery
Michigan's Oldest & Largest Winery
716 S. Kalamazoo Street
Paw Paw • **657-5568**

BRONSON LakeView Hospital
408 Hazen Street
Paw Paw • **657-3141**